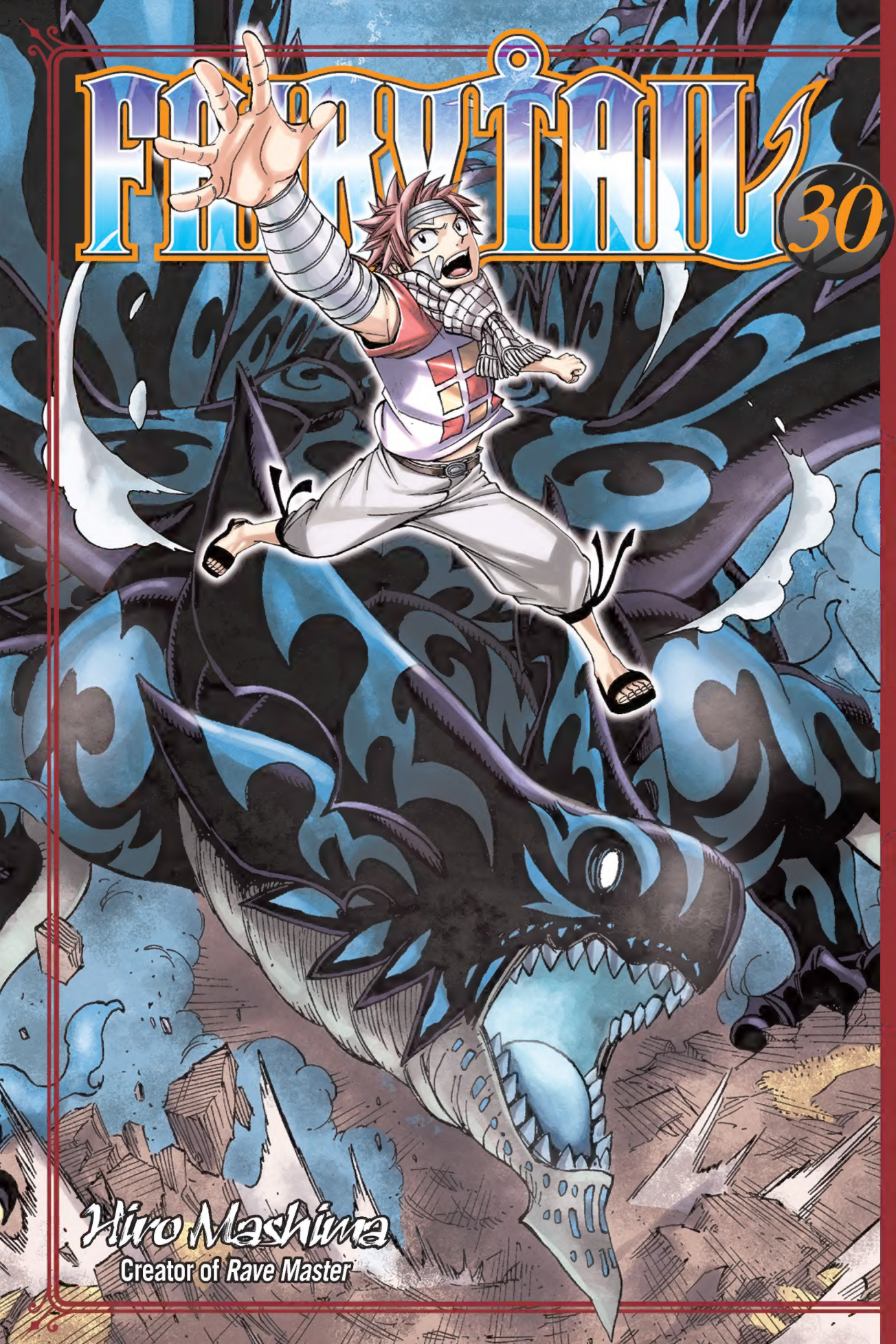


HEROIC AGE

30



Hiro Mashima
Creator of *Rave Master*

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル



30

HIRO MASHIMA

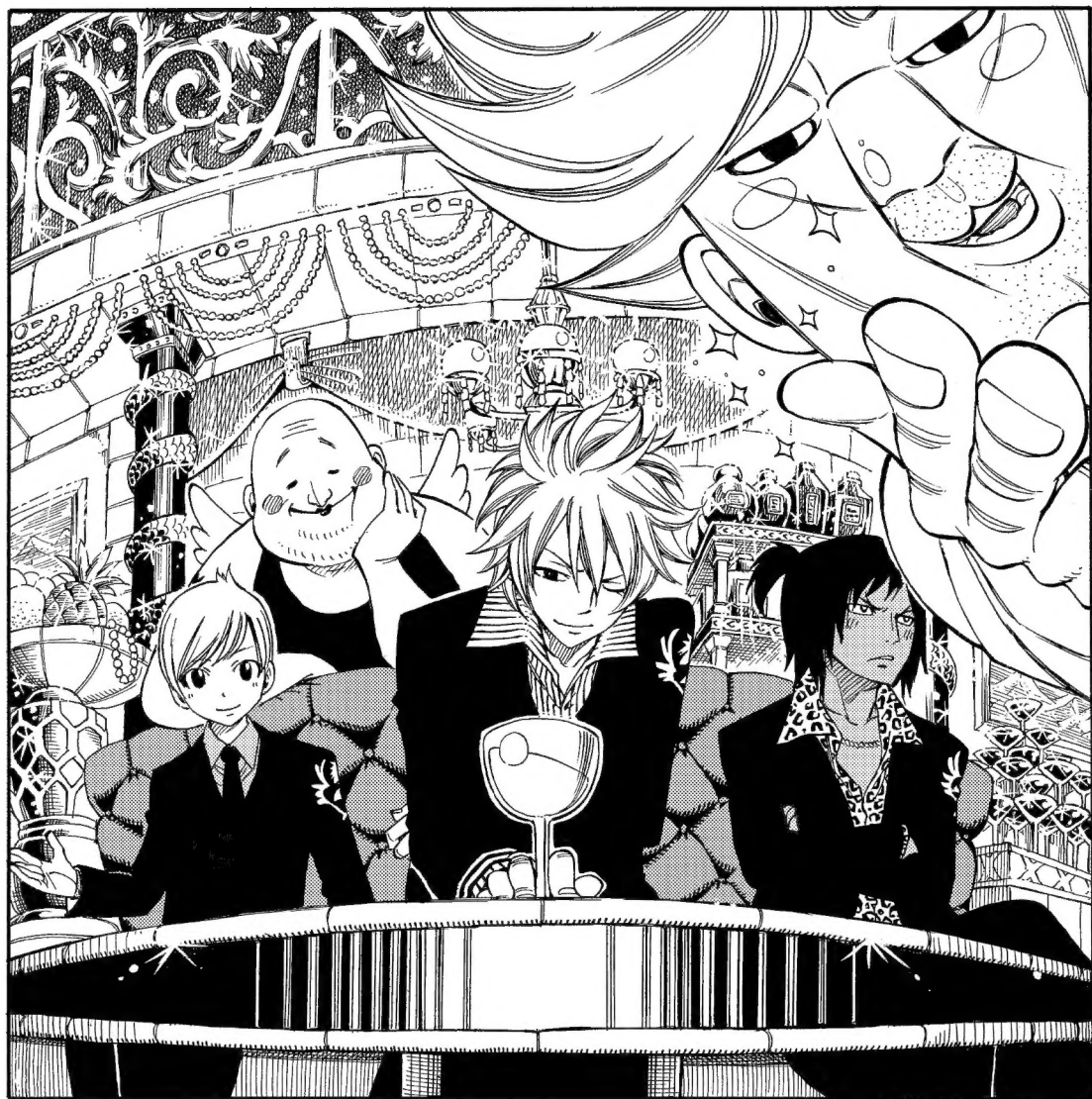
FAIRY TAIL 30 CONTENTS

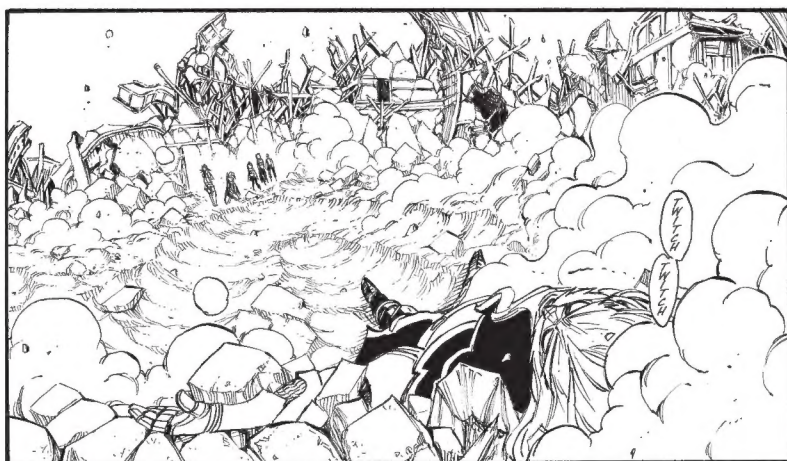
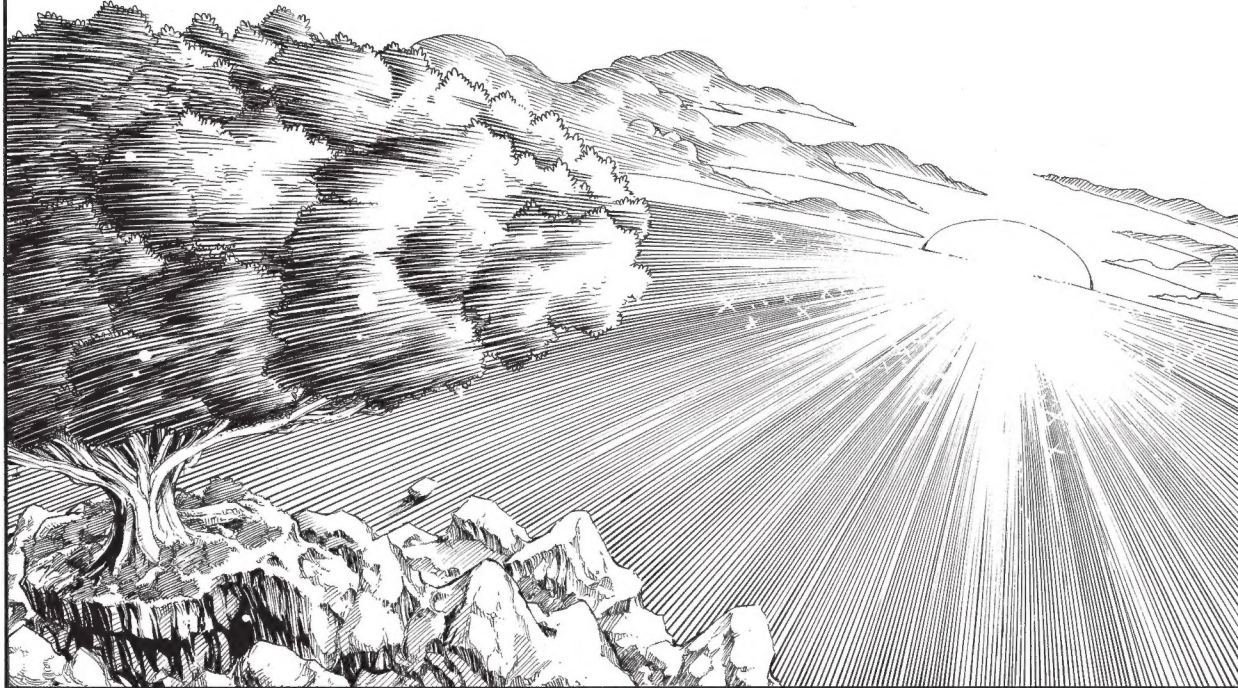
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FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 249: Magic Is Alive

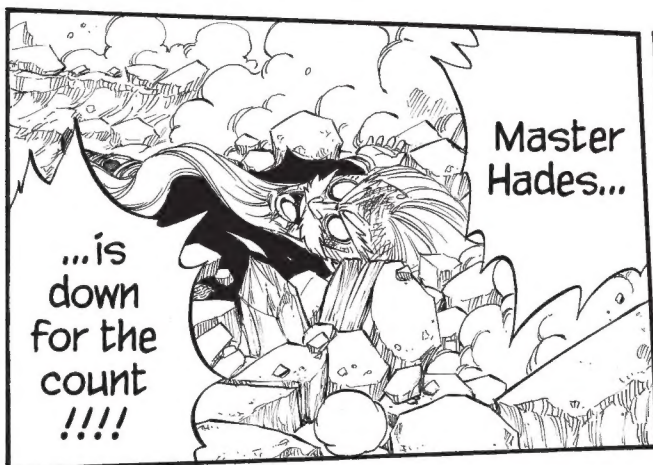
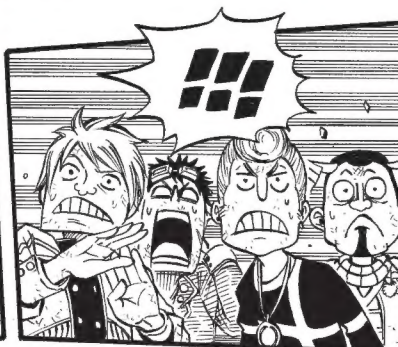
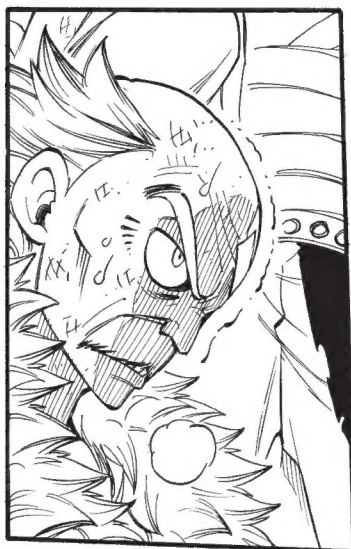


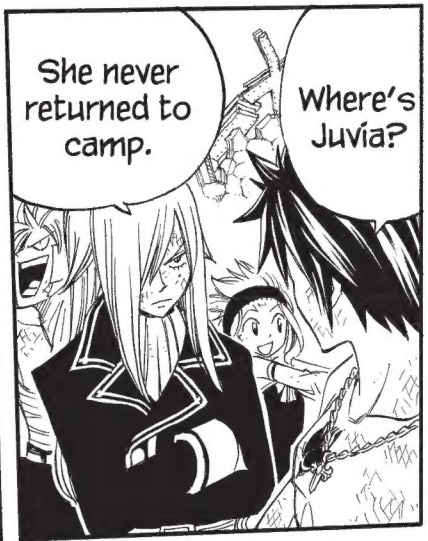


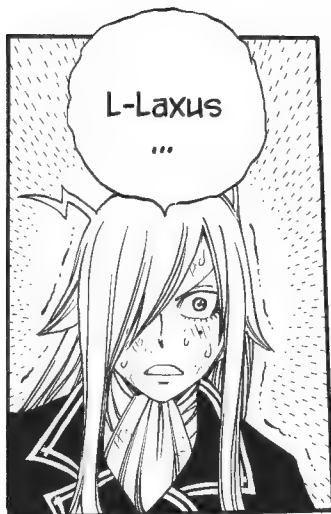


**Stop right
there!**



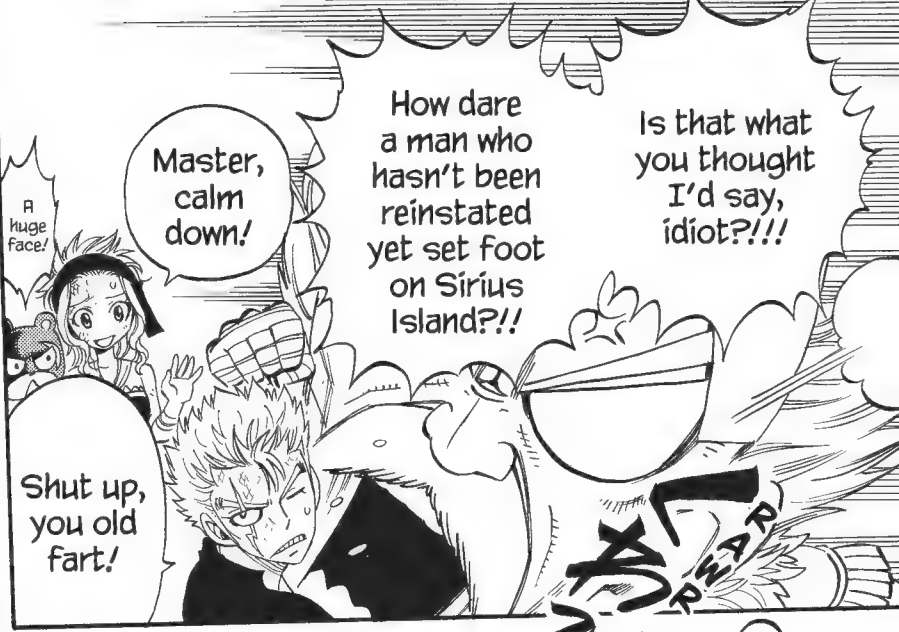






L-Lexus

...



Master, calm down!

How dare a man who hasn't been reinstated yet set foot on Sirius Island?!!

Is that what you thought I'd say, idiot?!!

Shut up, you old fart!



I guess so.

The master is as strict as always. He is truly a *man!*



WAAH!

Hey, stop that! Hey! Hey!!

You've come back to us, Lexus !!!!

Lexus !!!



So let's make it simple! A battle! An all-out battle!

Somebody got in the way of the second test, so it don't count!!!!



You meant *now*?!!

Okay, time to get the test going again!



"Not reinstated yet?"



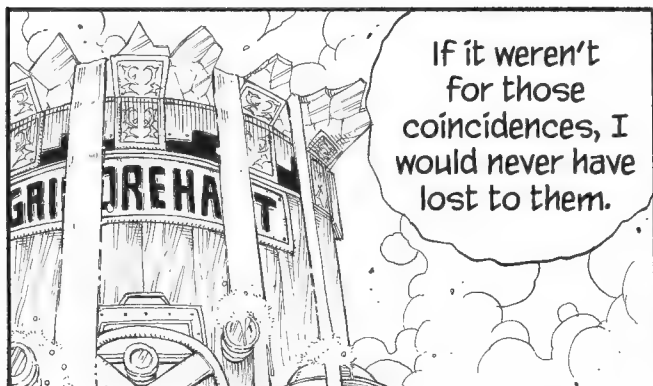


We fought, and I lost to you.



In thanks, I'm letting you get away. But get off the island!

I learned many things from you.



If it weren't
for those
coincidences, I
would never have
lost to them.



And Sirius
Island gave
its power
to your
children.

My
heart was
destroyed.

You're
wrong
...

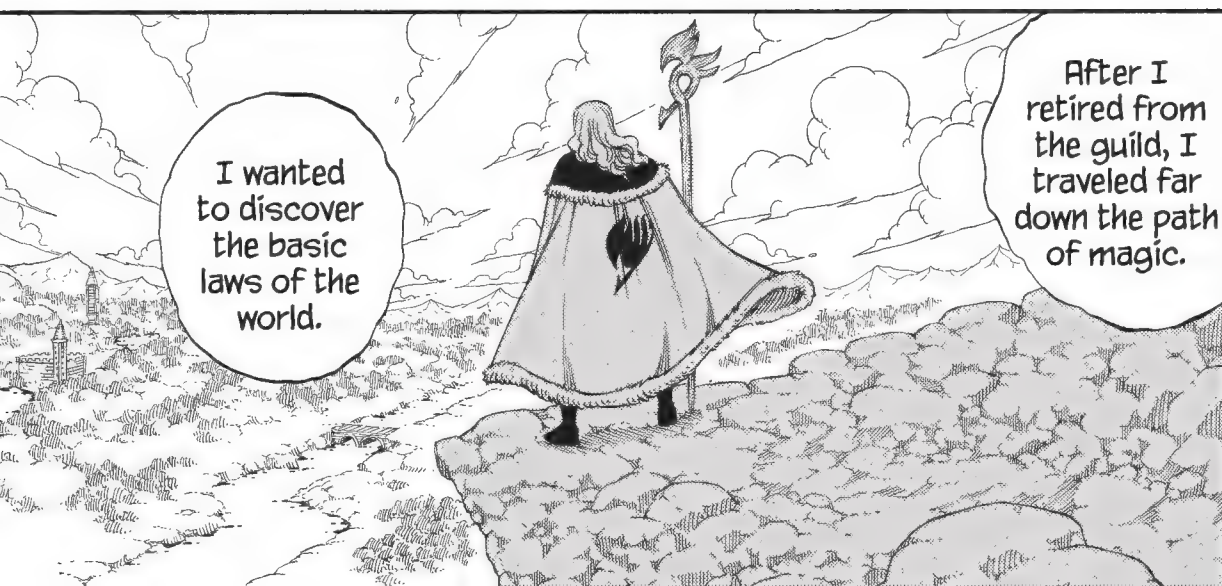


Why
did you
fall into
darkness?



And the
miracle
born of the
darkness is
what people
call magic.

I already
told you...
The basis
of magic *is*
darkness!

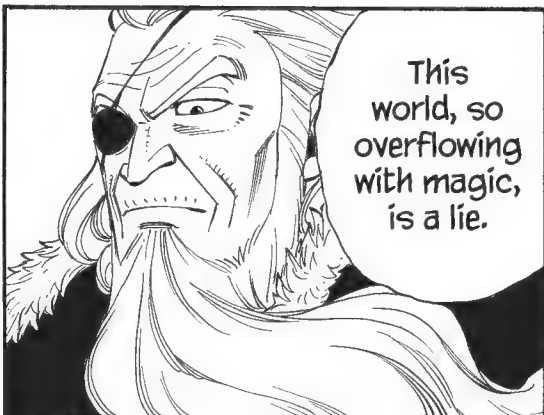


I wanted
to discover
the basic
laws of the
world.

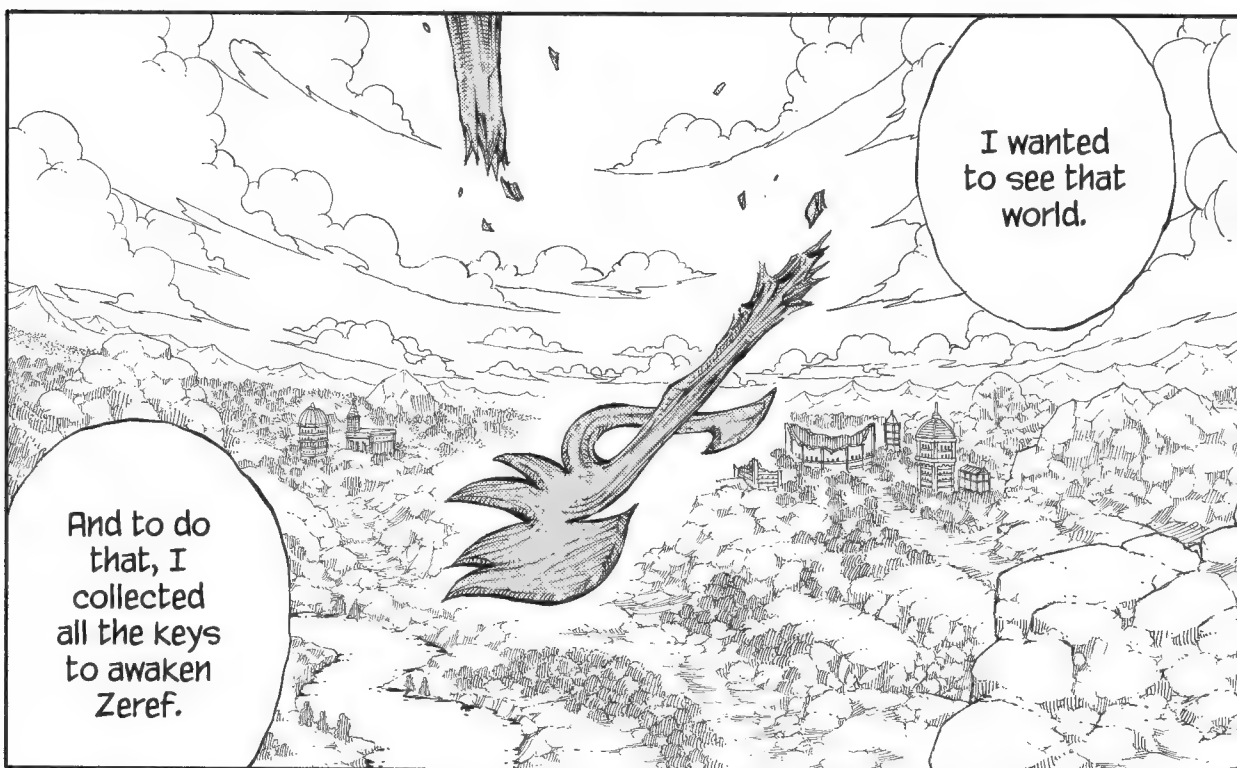
After I
retired from
the guild, I
traveled far
down the path
of magic.



The
fundamental
world of
magic is the
"Great Magic
World" Zeref
described.

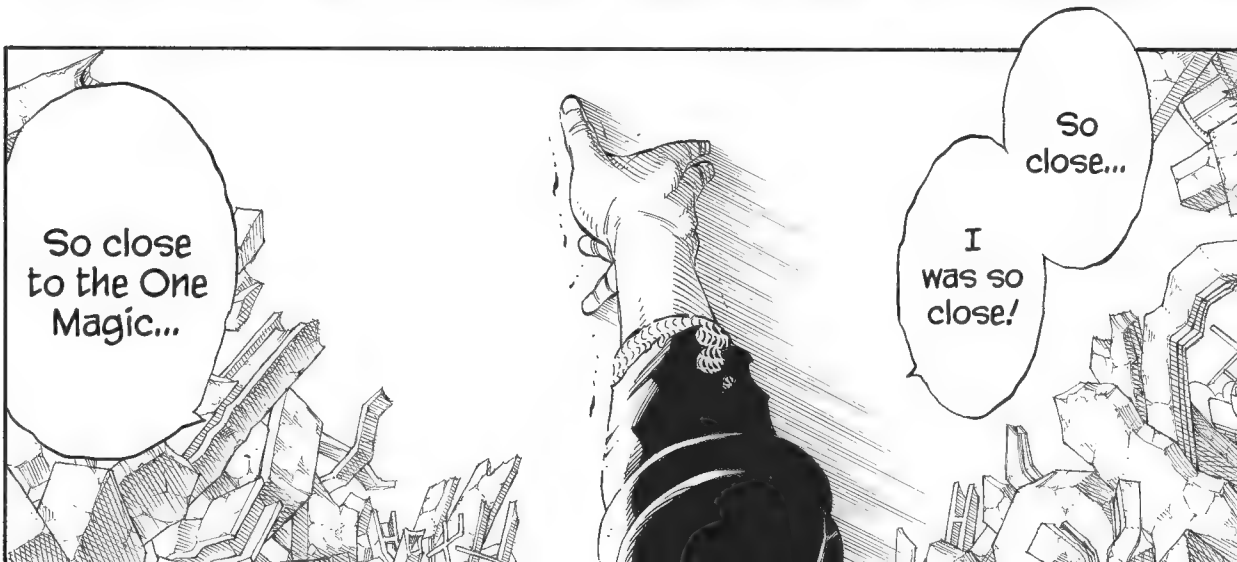


This
world, so
overflowing
with magic,
is a lie.



I wanted
to see that
world.

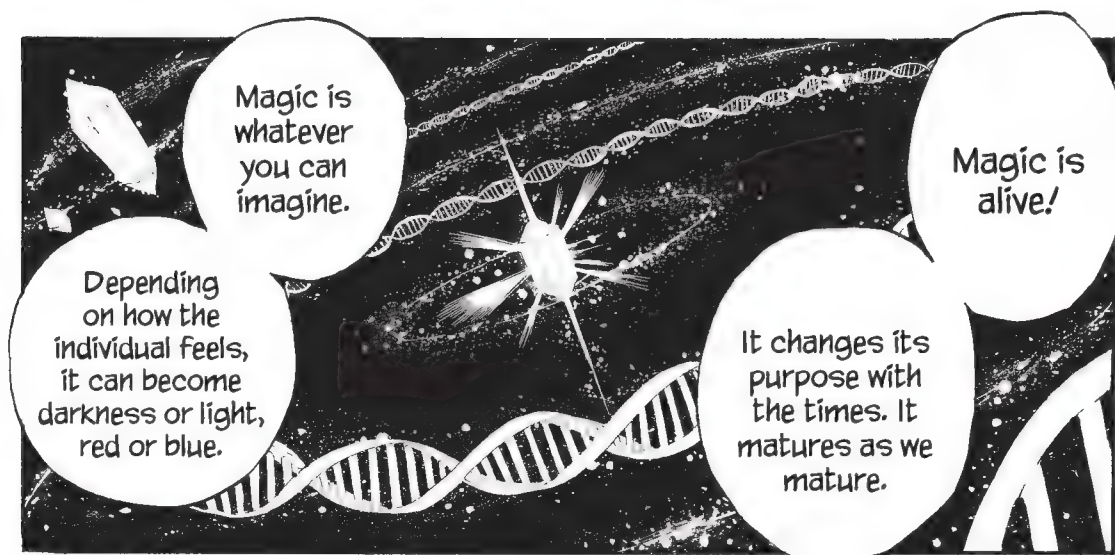
And to do
that, I
collected
all the keys
to awaken
Zeref.




So close
to the One
Magic...

So
close...

I
was so
close!



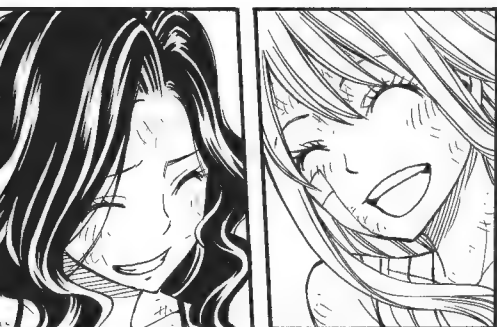
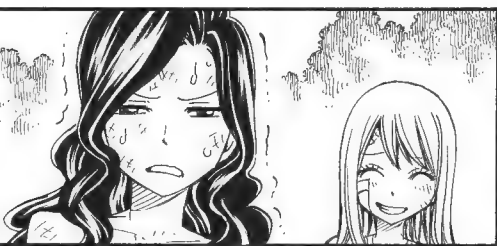
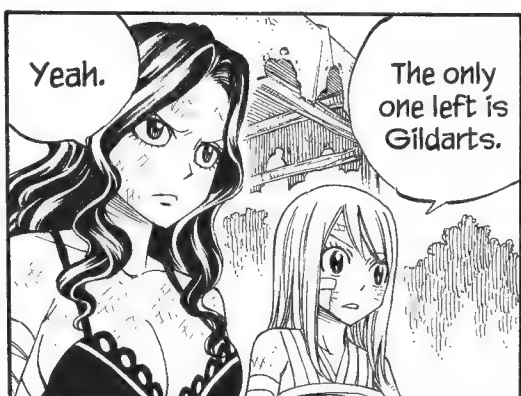


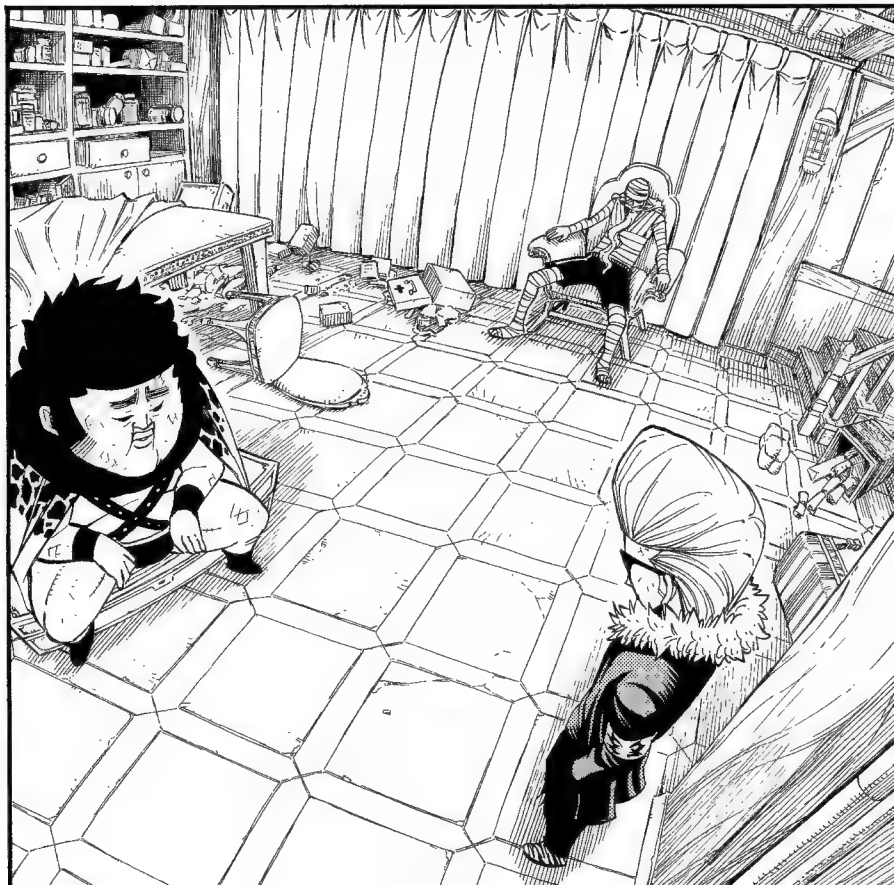
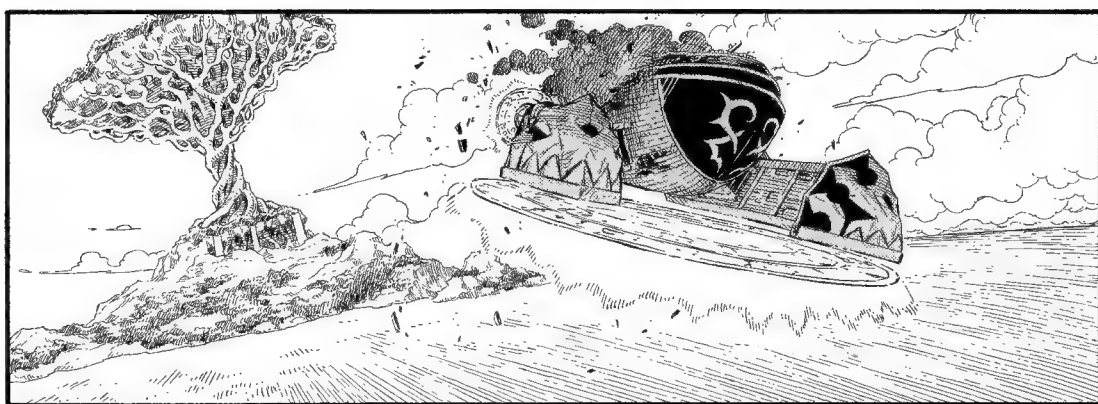
**You
taught
me all
of that!**

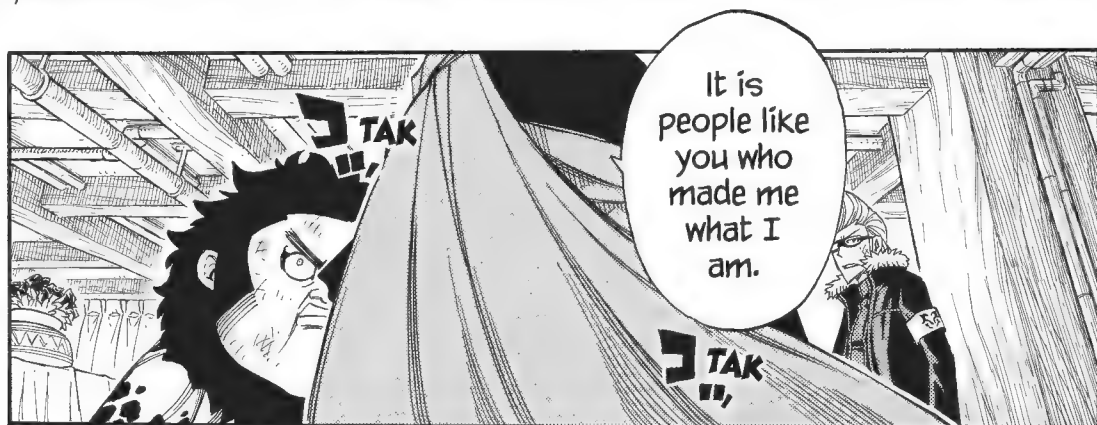
BOOM

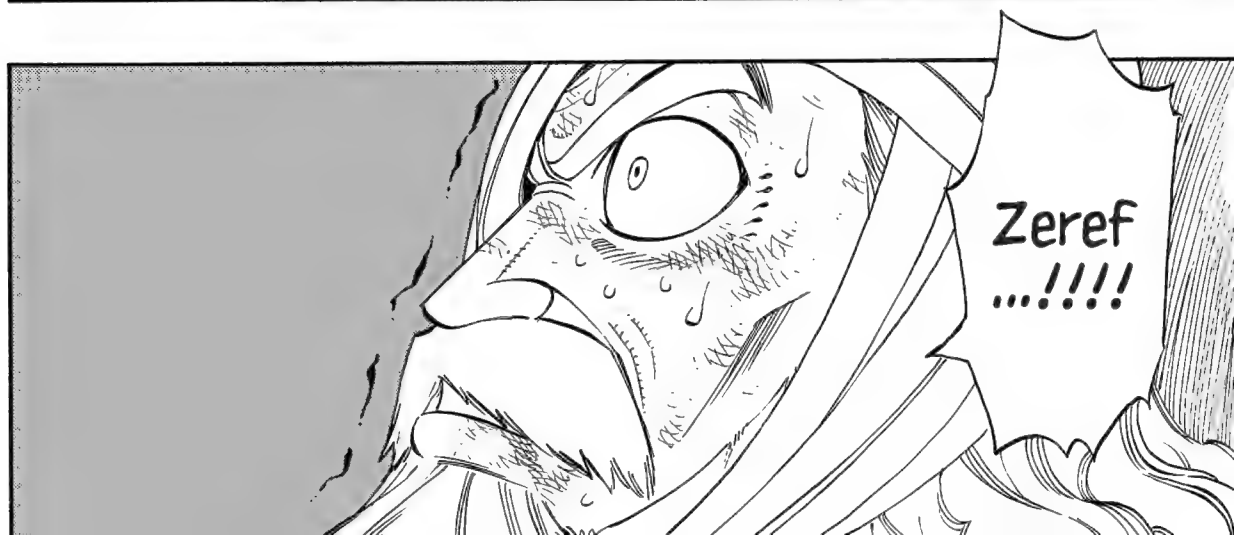






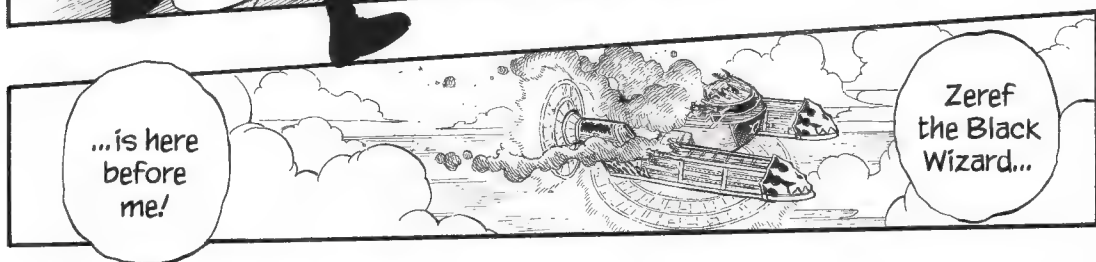


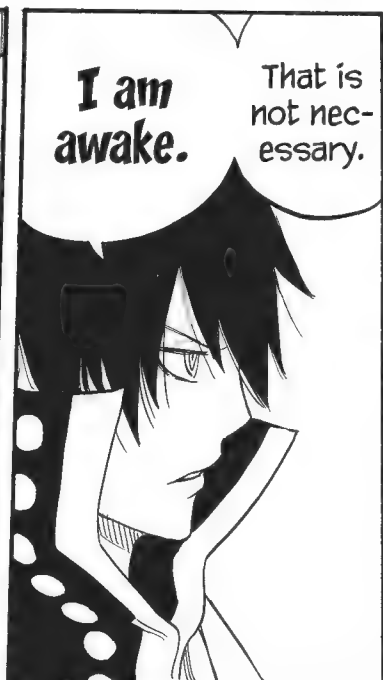
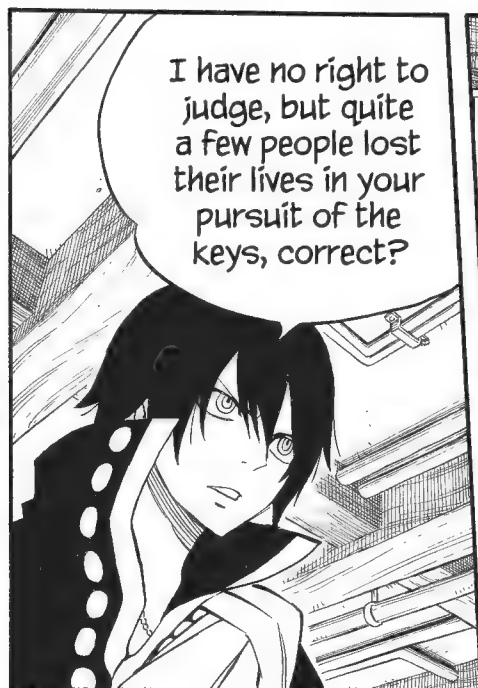
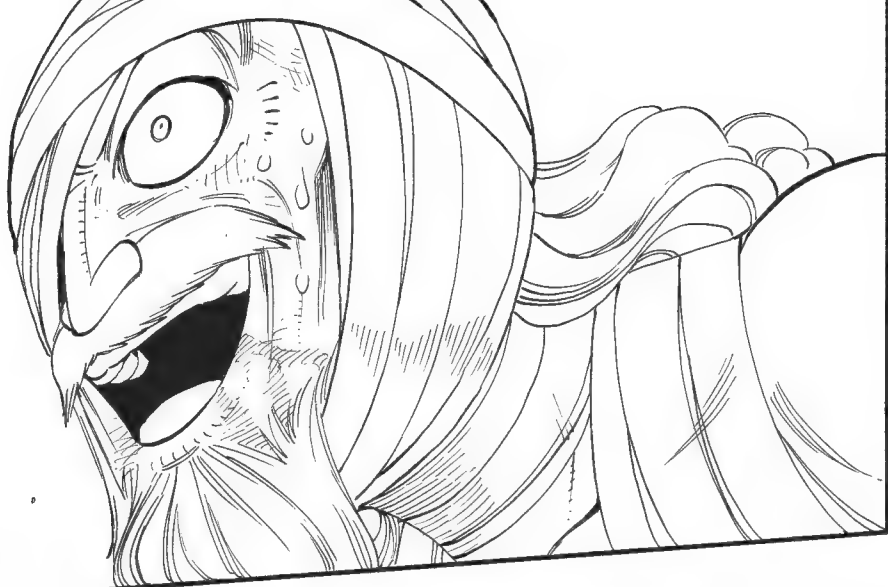






Chapter 250: Zeref Awakened







They were just an old fable. You thought they were real?

The "keys to Zeref's revival" were a delusion dreamed up by a small group that devoted itself to Zeref.



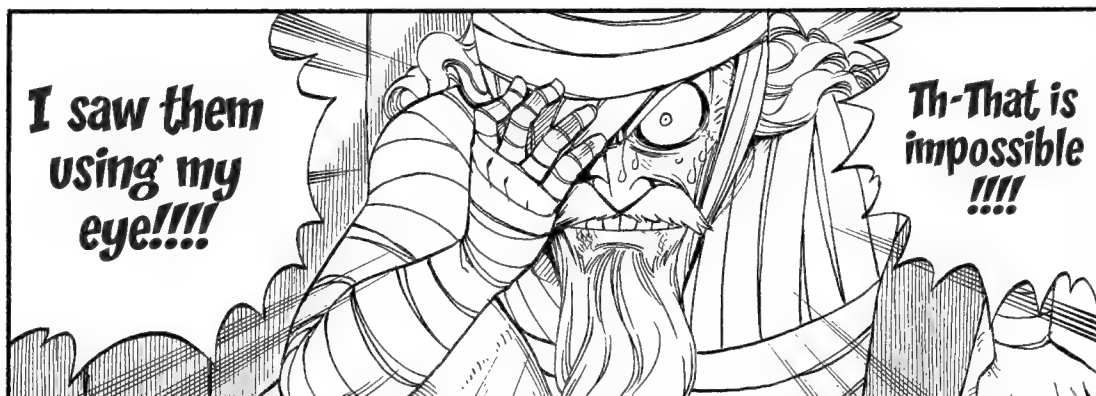
Wh-What?!

That is sad, since those keys were no more than lies.



The one you see before you is Zeref the Black Wizard.

I was never asleep in the first place.



I saw them using my eye!!!!

Th-That is impossible!!!!



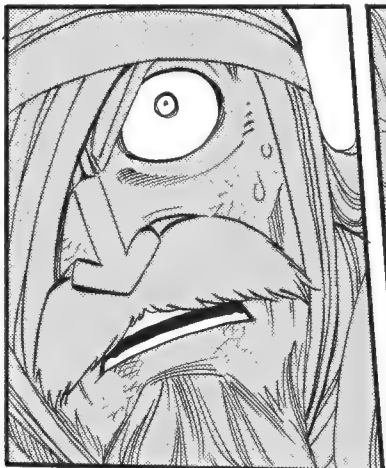
...at
that
time.



If you know
that, then it
will be easier
to explain.
That *was* my
true power...



That version
of you wasn't
even able to
defeat an
underling of
mine!!!!



SHUDDER
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
SHUDDER



...there
was one
day that
taught me
the value
of life.

However
...

...over
four hundred
years, I have seen
countless battles...
and countless
deaths.

You
see...

WHOOOOOSH



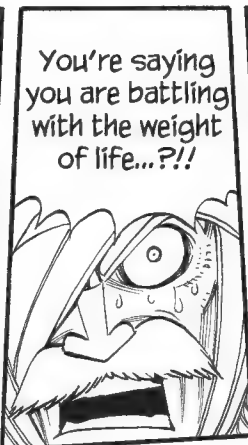
To stop it from stealing souls, I must forget the weight of a human life.

That was when it began. My body is cursed. The more precious I feel human life is, the more souls it steals.



That is why my magic never works as I would desire it to.

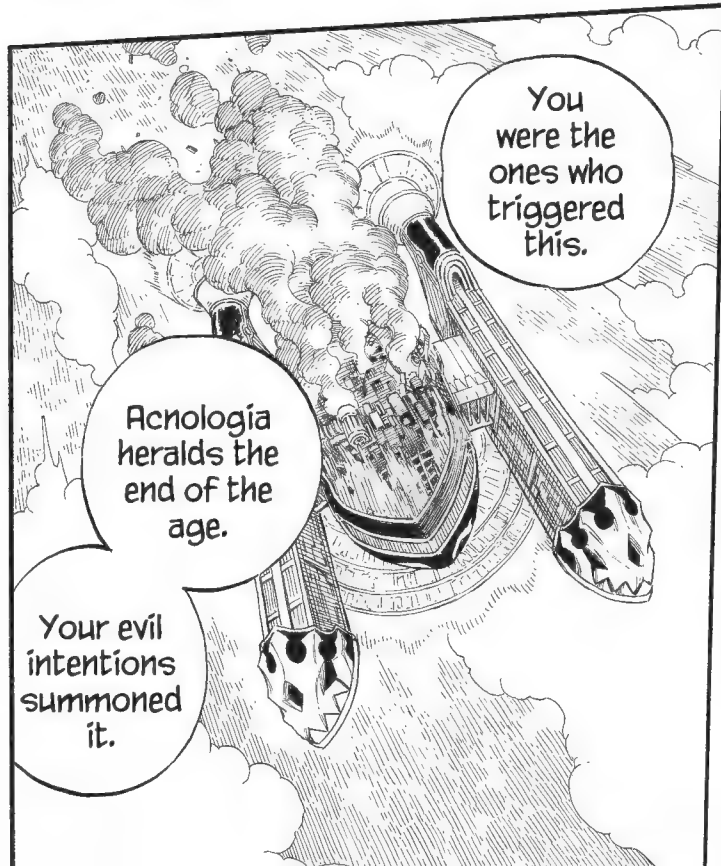
Yes...



You're saying you are battling with the weight of life...?!!



Even for me, it is heart-rending.



You were the ones who triggered this.

Acnologia heralds the end of the age.
Your evil intentions summoned it.



But if I actually *forgot* the weight of life, it would be different.



And now,
you will be
punished.



Just
what
are you
talking
about
...?!!

Acno-
logia
?!!



There's so
much I
still want
to ask
you!

SHUDDER
SHUDDER
SHUDDER

SHUDDER

W-wait
!!!!



And
second...

First,
for calling
Acnologia.

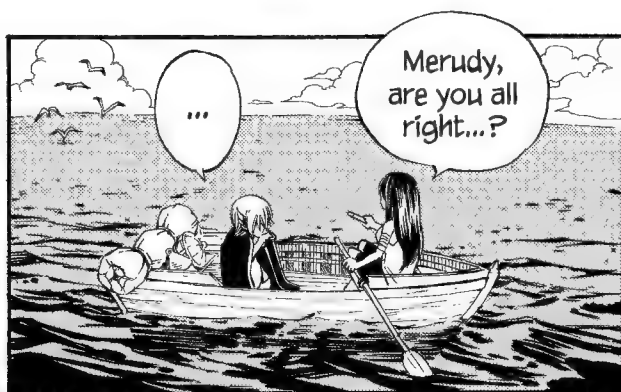
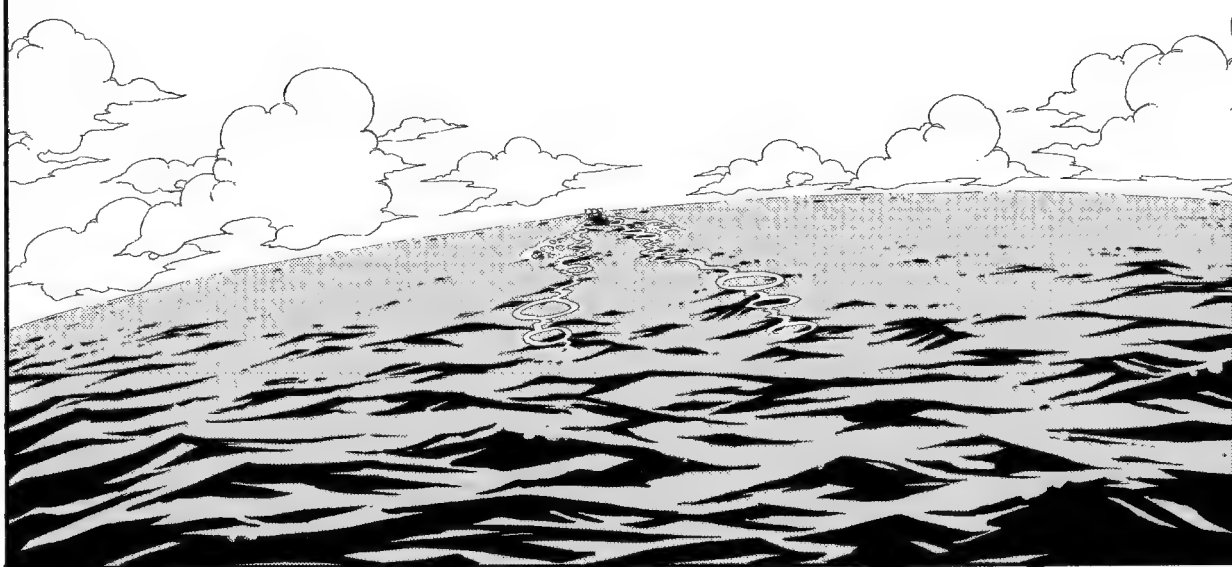


...for
making me
forget the
weight of
life!





REPENT.

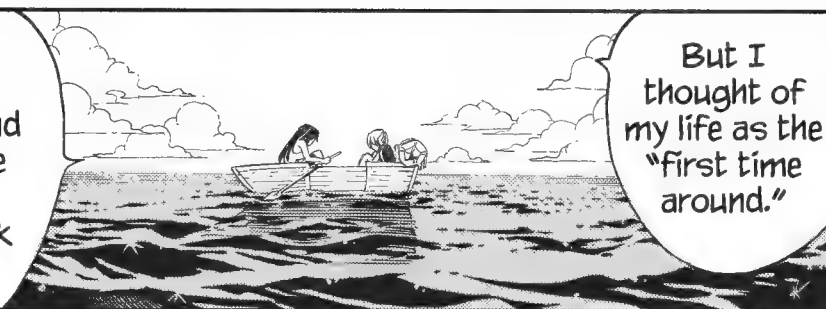


I knew
that I
would have
to tell you
someday...



Yes.

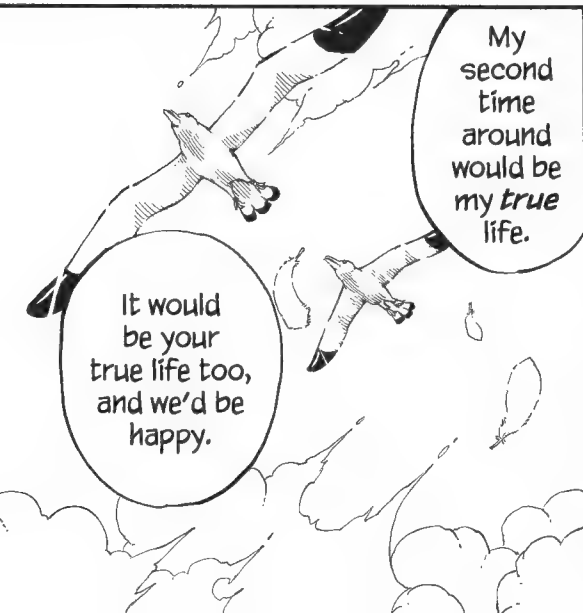
And when the
Great Magic
World arrived and
my Arc of Time
was perfected,
I could go back
again.



But I
thought of
my life as the
"first time
around."

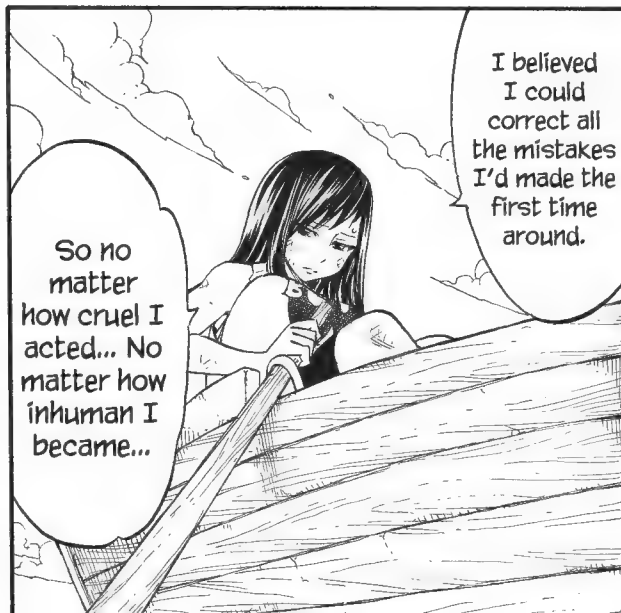
My
second
time
around
would be
my *true*
life.

It would
be your
true life too,
and we'd be
happy.



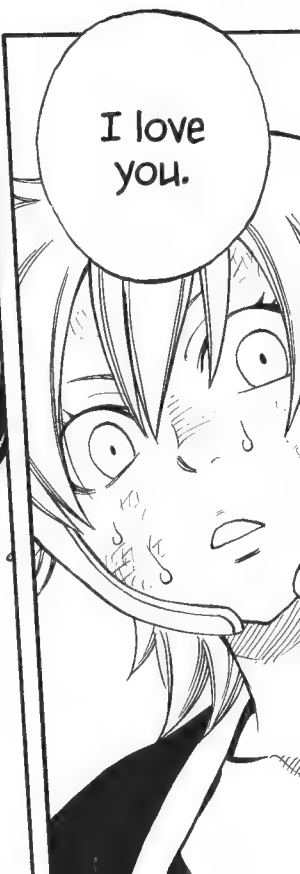
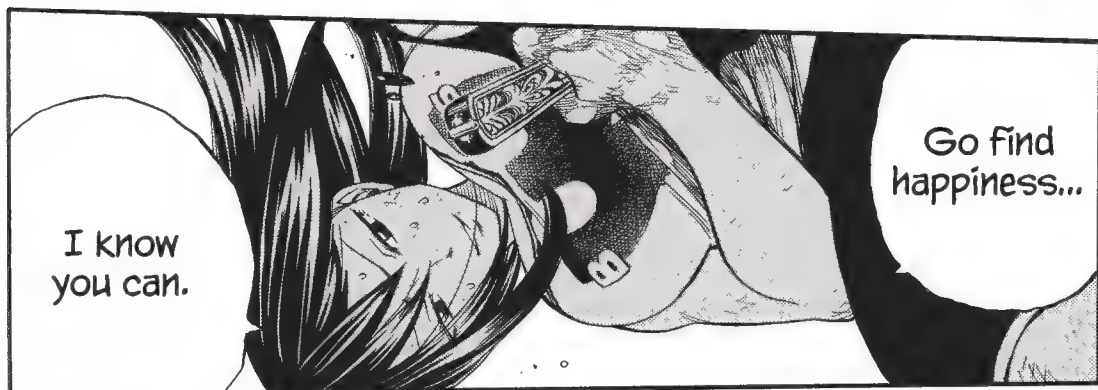
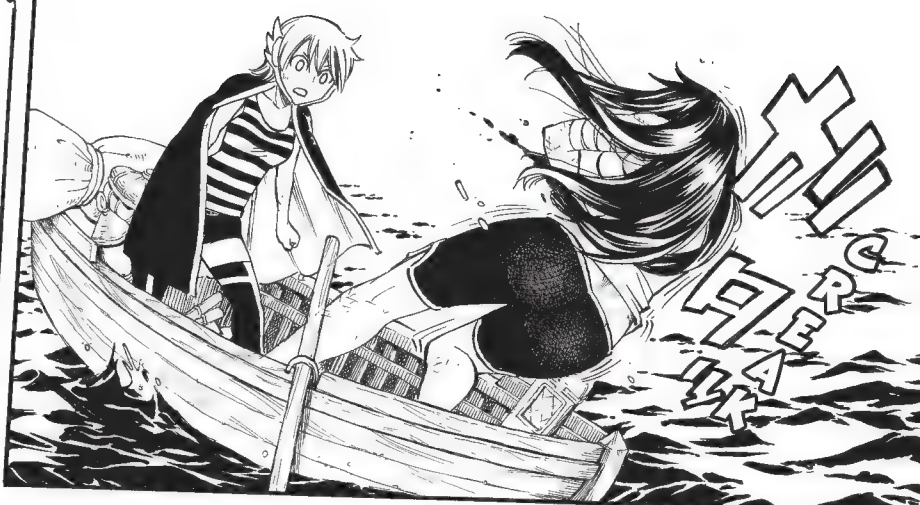
So no
matter
how cruel I
acted... No
matter how
inhuman I
became...

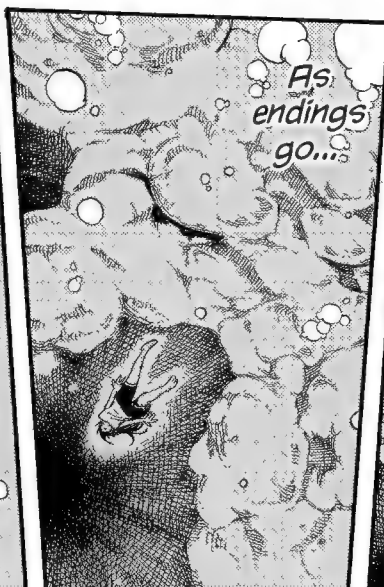
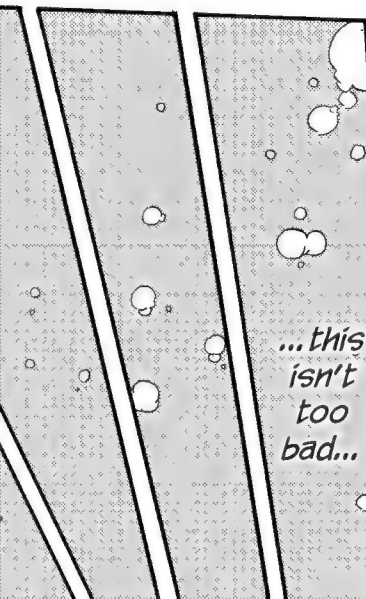
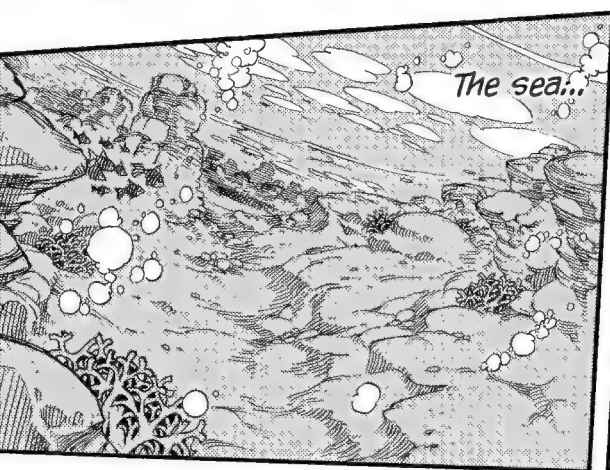
I believed
I could
correct all
the mistakes
I'd made the
first time
around.

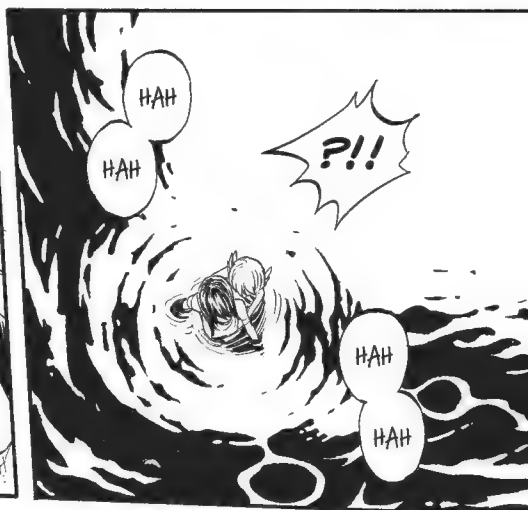
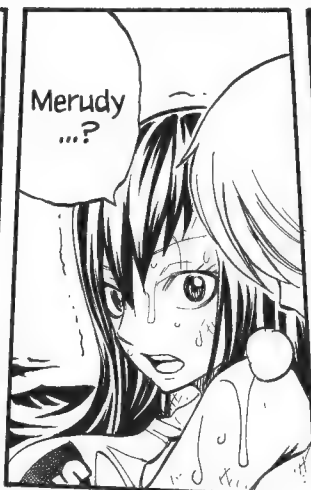










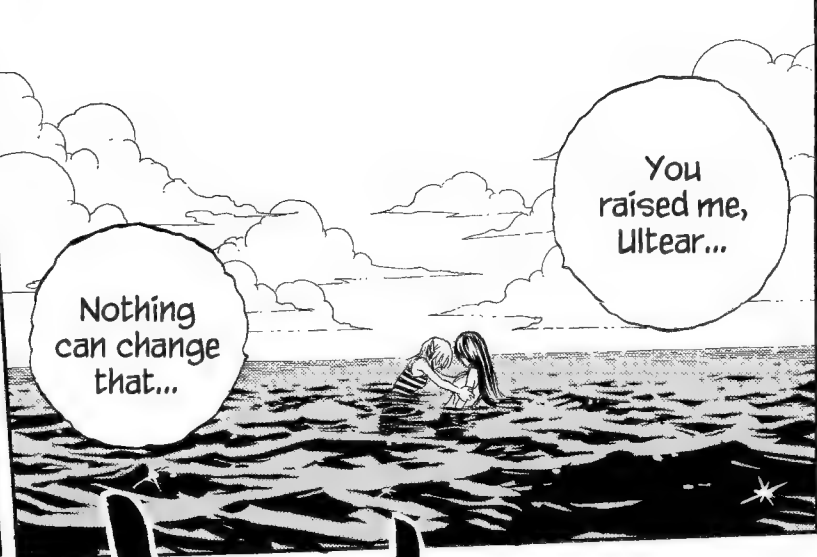




I forgive
you, all
right?!

I
forgive
you...

So don't
ever say
anything
like that
again!



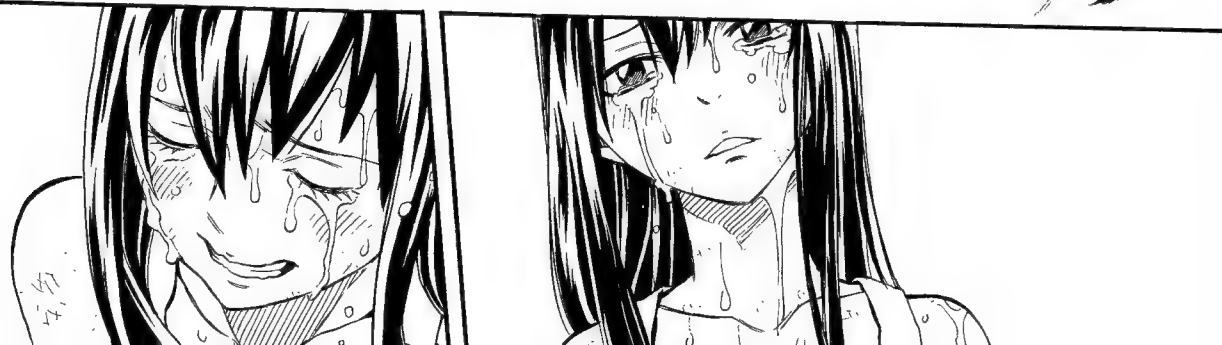
Nothing
can change
that...

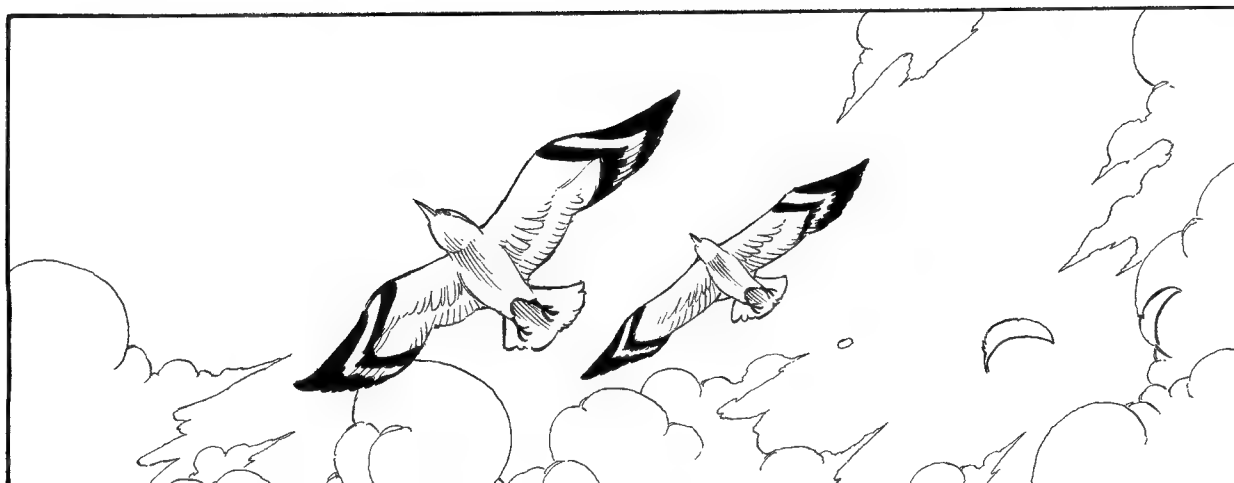
You
raised me,
Ultear...

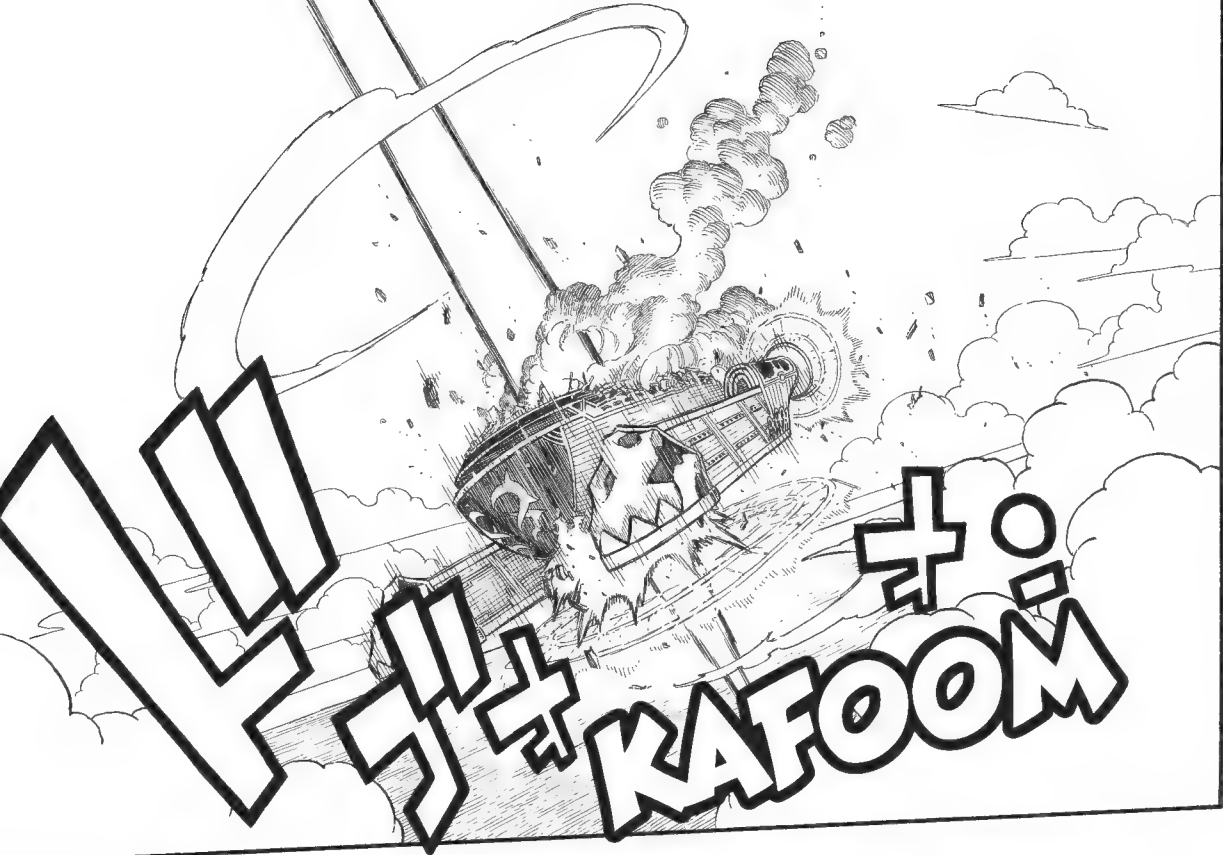


Please,
don't
leave me
alone
!!!!

I love
you!!!!
So please
live!!!!







D...
D-D-
D-D...
Dead...



M-
Master
Hades
is...





...
impudent
scum!

Fall
into the
under-
world
...



So
you've
come
...

...
Acho-
logia
!!!!

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 251: The Right to Love





W H A A A A T
?!!!



This year's
S-Class
Wizard
Qualification
Test is
canceled.

Like
I
said!



After
all that's
happened,
there's no
choice.

You aren't the
candidate! You
were trying
to make *Levy*
an S-Class
wizard.

You *will*
make
me S-
Class
!!!

Why you
gotta
cancel
it?!!

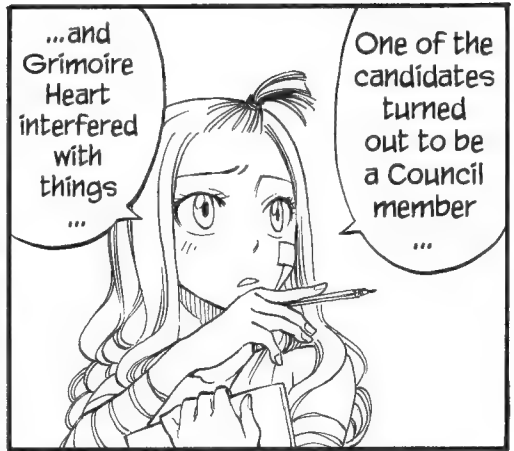
I can't
accept
that,
old
man!!!



There's no reason for *you* to get so upset about it.

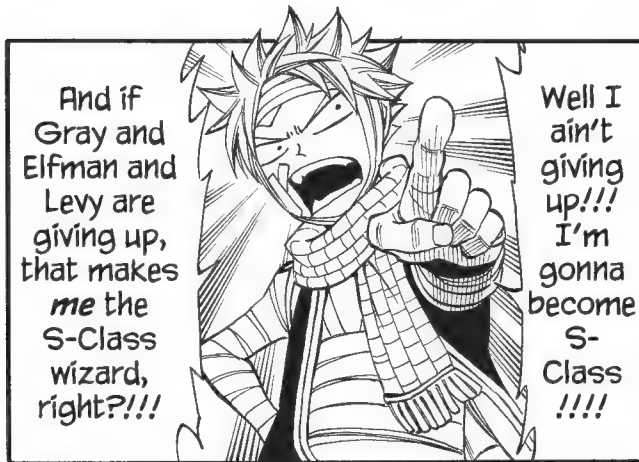
You're saying you're okay with this?! Dammit!

I guess there's nothing we can do.



...and Grimoire Heart interfered with things ...

One of the candidates turned out to be a Council member ...



And if Gray and Elfman and Levy are giving up, that makes *me* the S-Class wizard, right?!!!

Well I ain't giving up!!! I'm gonna become S-Class !!!!



So a *man* must know when to make an exit?

It's all right, Gray-sama! I'm sure you'll be chosen next time!!

Aarrgh! I wanted to be S-Class!



**All rrrrright!!!!
I'm all fired up!!!!**



Natsu, if you can defeat me, I'll make you S-Class.

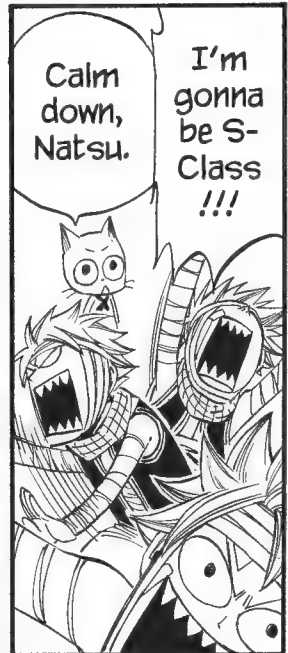
I'll just start a special Final Test right here and now.

Really, old man ?!!!

FLIP FLIP Z Z Z

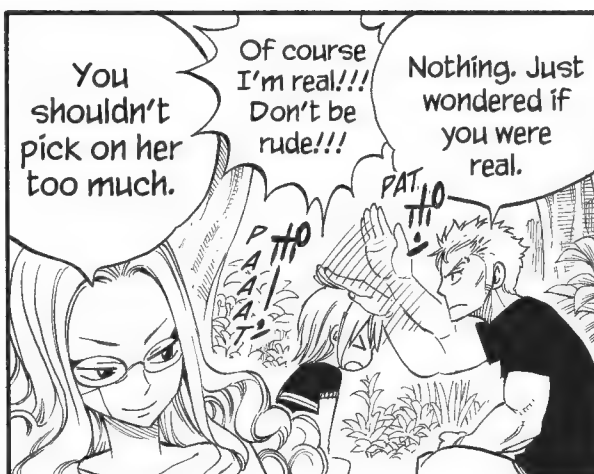


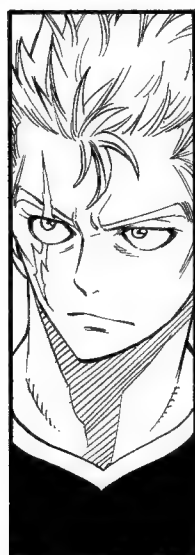
Fine, then!

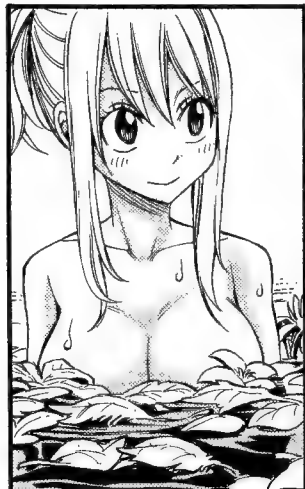
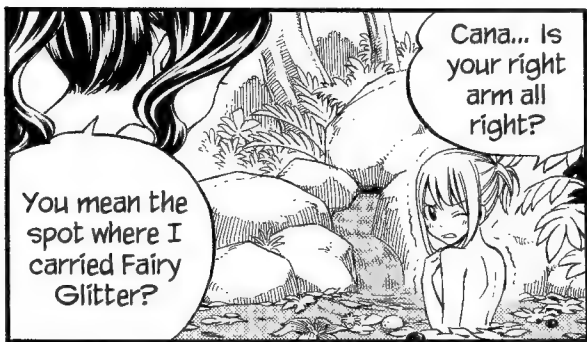


Calm down, Natsu.

I'm gonna be S-Class !!!









No worries.

You know... That time I left you alone and went searching on my own for Mavis's grave.

For what?

I'm sorry.

Listen, Lucy...

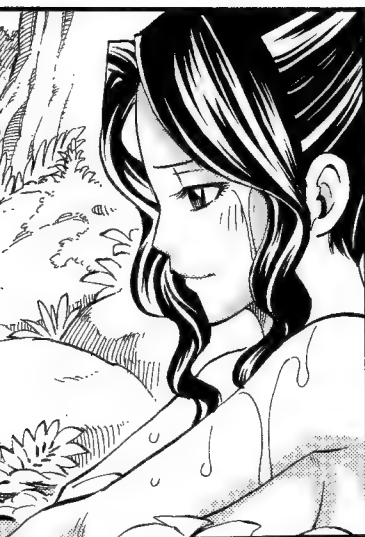
I *am* worried about it.

That isn't a betrayal. Just another prank, like you play all the time at the guild!

I'm right, aren't I?



I think I'll always regret betraying my friends.



...that'd **suck** for me too!

And if I started thinking you were some kind of traitor all the time ...

Right?





Hold on a bit! This is the moment Natsu awakens to classic manliness!

Gild-arts!



Good, Natsu!! Pull it in! Pull it in!!!

Hey! I think I hooked something!

LOTWCH



Our dinner !!

Wait! My fish !!

Natsu, Happy, step right this way!



Hm?



Cana has something really important to talk to you about.



What is it?







It's you,
Gildarts.



W
H
A
A
?!!!



Good!
Good!



Huh?



Yeah... It's
hard to
accept,
huh?



Wait...
Hold it...
You're...!!



...and I
couldn't
bring myself
to say
anything
...

Things
got
in the
way...



Emma...?
Laila...?
Jean...?
Sidney...?
Michelle...?
Stephanie?

No!!
No!! The
hair's all
wrong!!

Sara...?
Naomi...?
Clair...?
Feena...?
Marly...?
Eliza?

Who
was the
mother
?!!

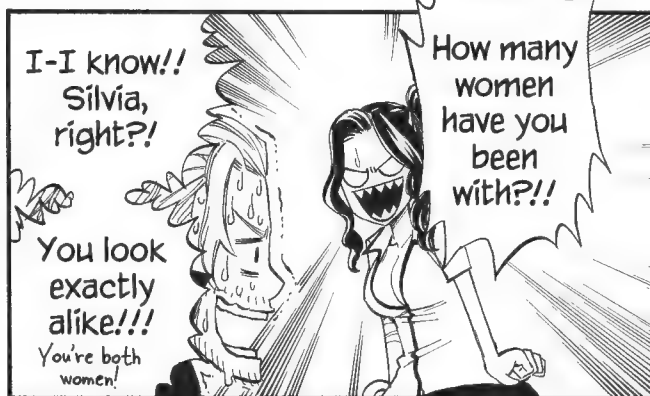
MUM-
MUM-
BLE

WHAAA?
LISTEN,
YOU!!!



Why'd
you have
to be
such a
woman-
izer
?!?!

Aww,
man!!
Now
I'm
pissed
off!!!



I-I know!!
Silvia,
right?!

You look
exactly
alike!!!
You're both
women!

How many
women
have you
been
with?!!



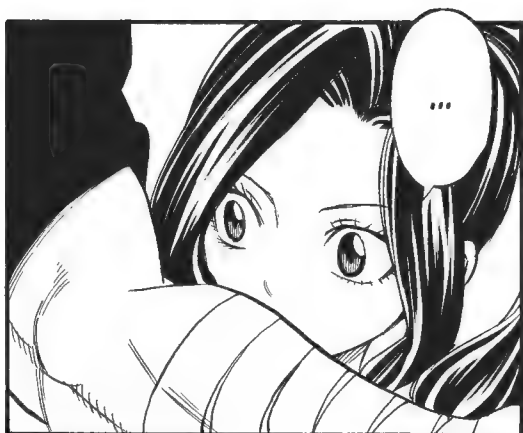
I'm not
expecting us
to suddenly
be a family or
anything, got
it?!!

That's all I
wanted to
say!!!



W-Wait a
second!

Anyway,
that's
the deal.
That's all
I came to
say!!!





And then one thing led to another, and I wasn't able to until now.

It was hard to just come out and say it.



Why didn't you say anything?

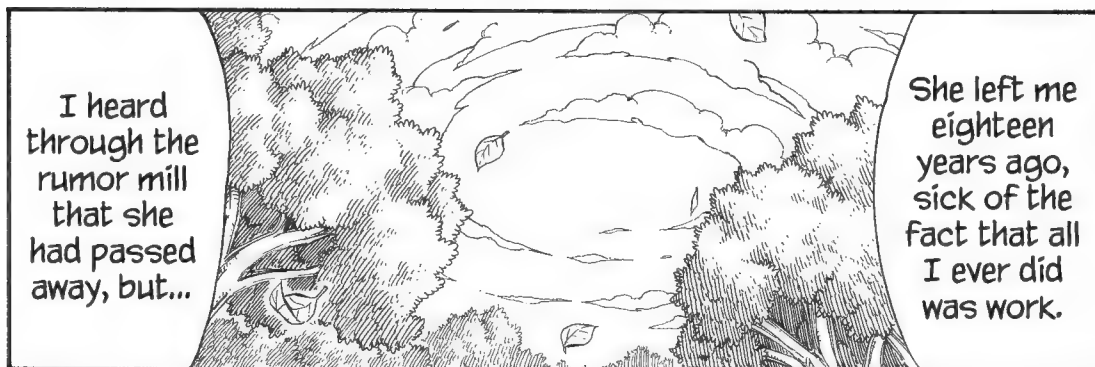


Let me go.



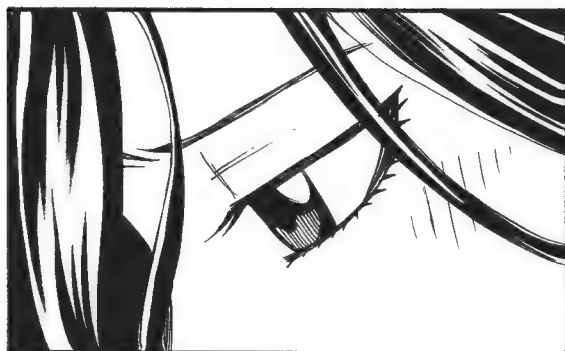
I married Cornelia. I never remarried.

Cornelia was the only woman I ever loved.



I heard through the rumor mill that she had passed away, but...

She left me eighteen years ago, sick of the fact that all I ever did was work.



...never that she had a child...



It's okay. I did everything I could to keep it a secret.



SST
↑ ↓



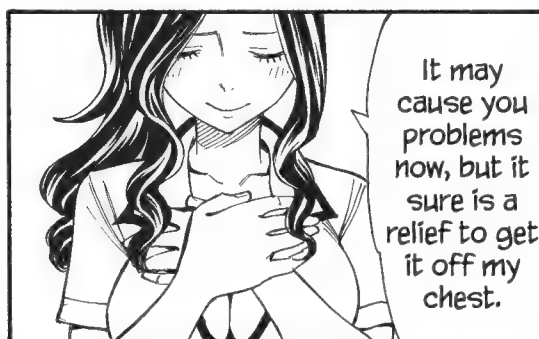
Forgive me...

I never realized...



...and she was always so close...

So I had a little girl...



It may cause you problems now, but it sure is a relief to get it off my chest.

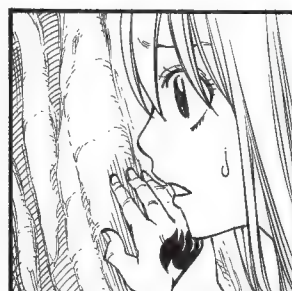


But...

...could I say it just once?

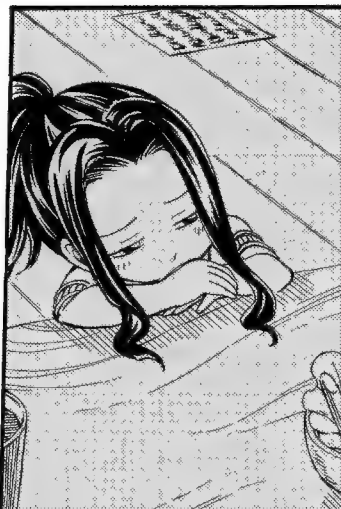
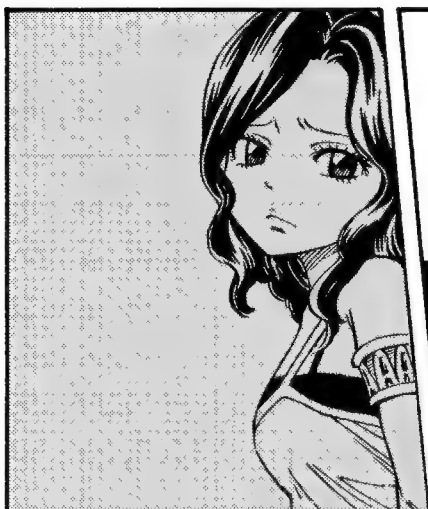
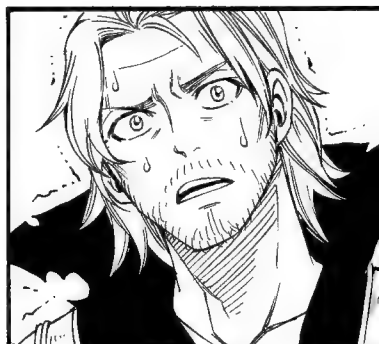
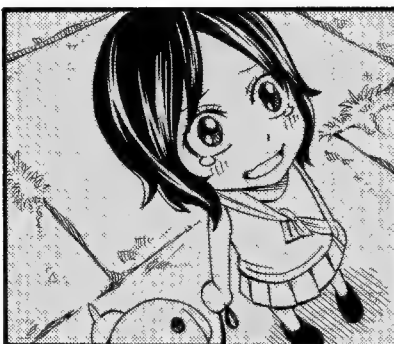
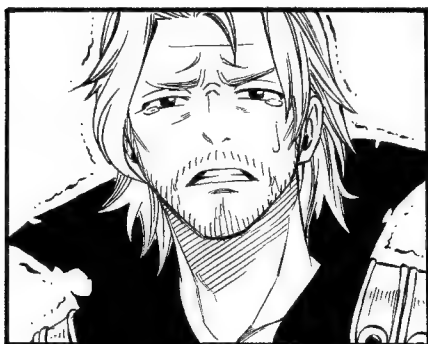


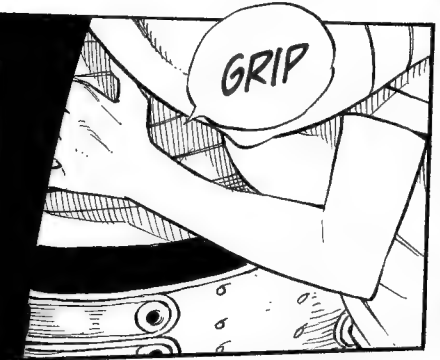
We can be like we always were.



Stop that! I'm not here to say, "Do your duty," or anything.







GRIP



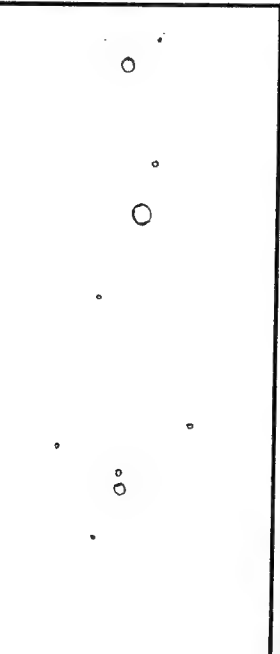
HUG

Cana
!!!!



Never
again
!!!!

I'll make
sure you're
never lonely
again!!!



What
I'm
saying
is...



Don't you
think that'd
be a little
stifling?



...it'll
always
be with
you...

From now
on, when I
go on a job,
or when I go
drinking...

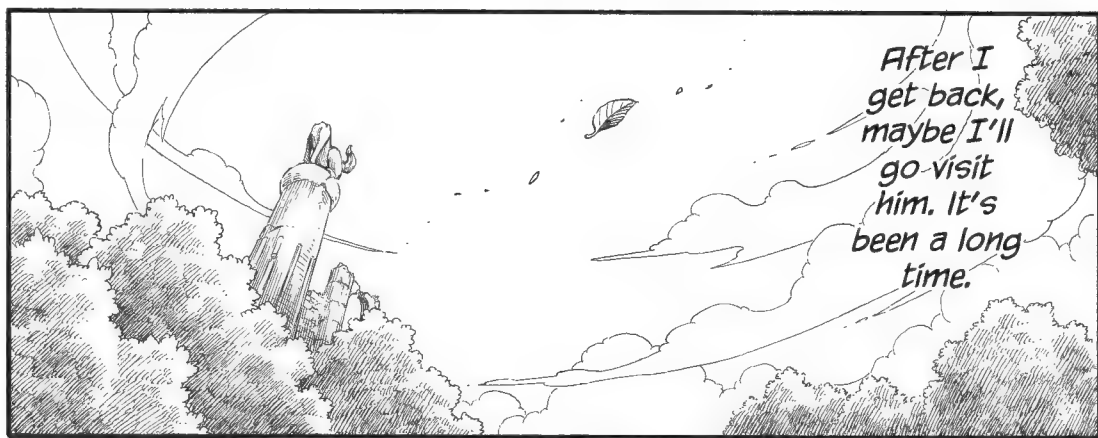




"Father"...
huh?



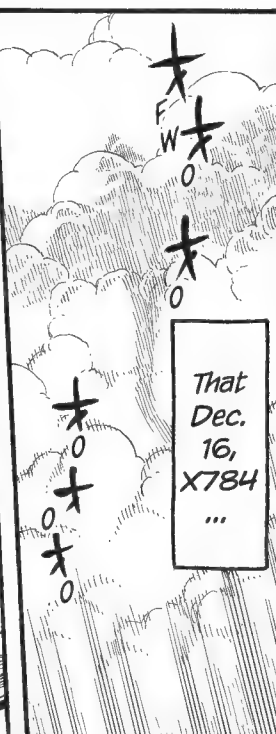
W
H
A
A
A
?!



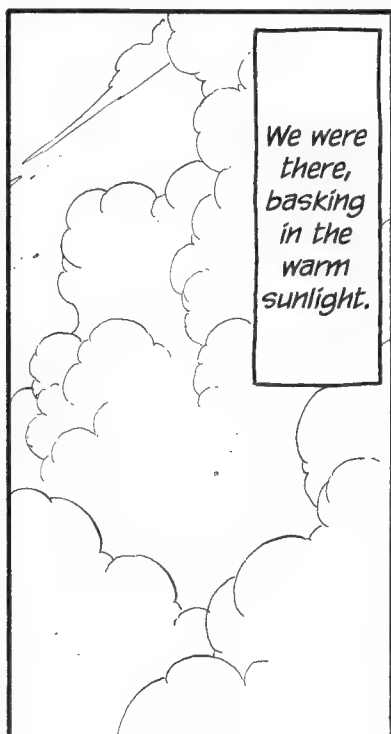
After I
get back,
maybe I'll
go visit
him. It's
been a long
time.



On
Sirius
Island
...



That
Dec.
16,
X784
...



We were
there,
basking
in the
warm
sunlight.



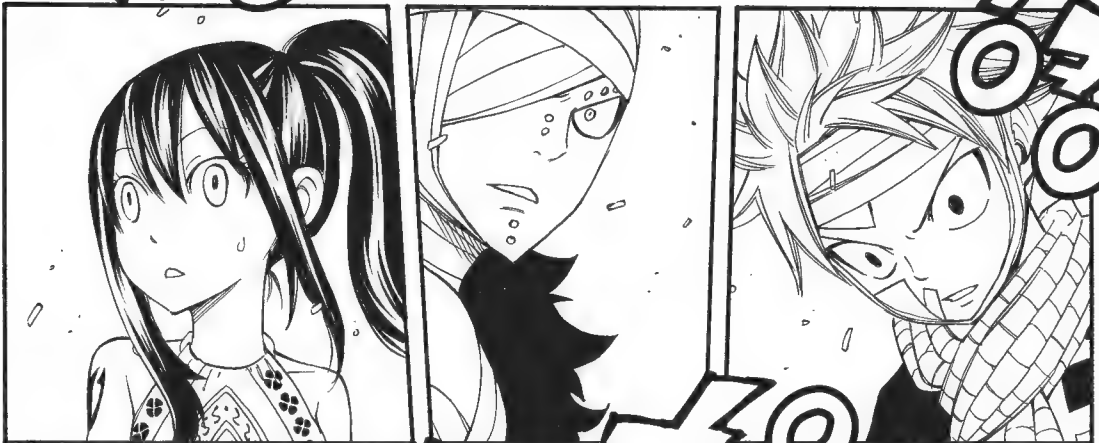
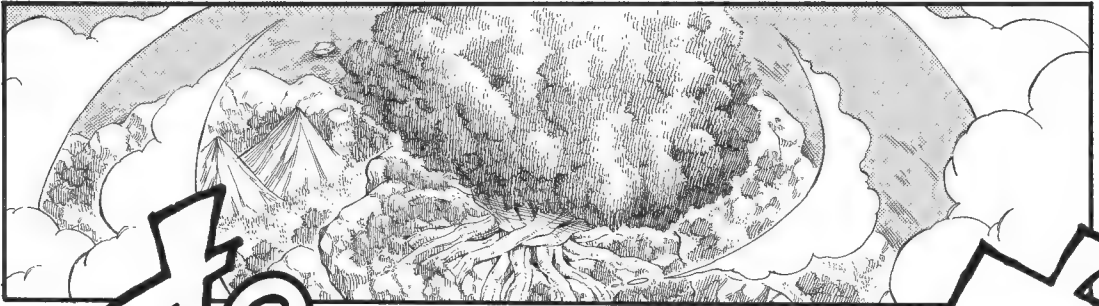
*...when
suddenly,
our doom
arrived.*

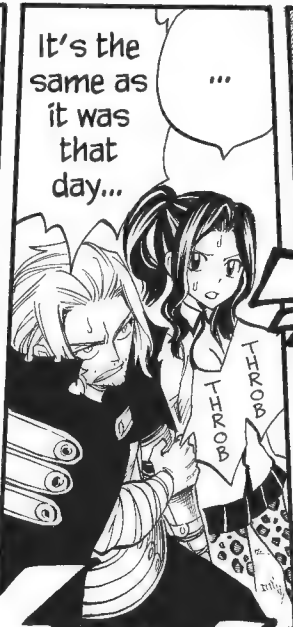
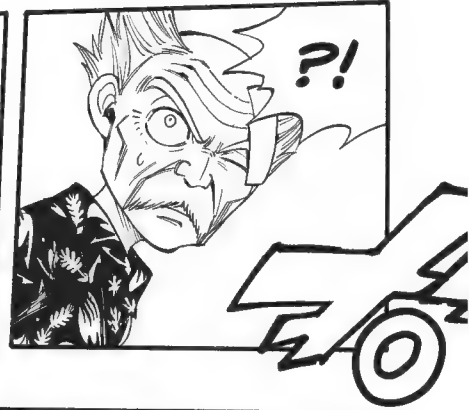
FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 252: To You Prideful Brats









What's
...going
on...?



...a
dragon
?!



This
is...



It's
huge!



What
is it?!



I knew
it...

The
dragons
are still
alive!



It's
a real
dragon...



You
gotta be
kidding
me!



Acnologia!

It is the black
dragon from
the Apocalypse
Revelations.



Also
Grandeeneey
and
Metalicana
too!!

Stop
that,
Natsu
!!



Listen, you!
If you know
where Igneel
is right now,
you'd better
tell me!!!

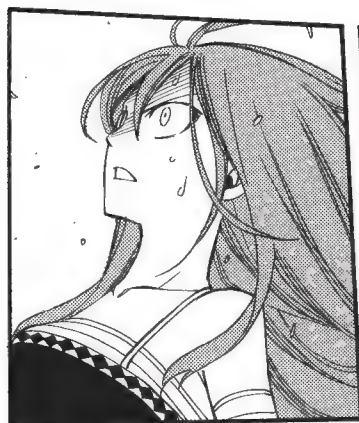


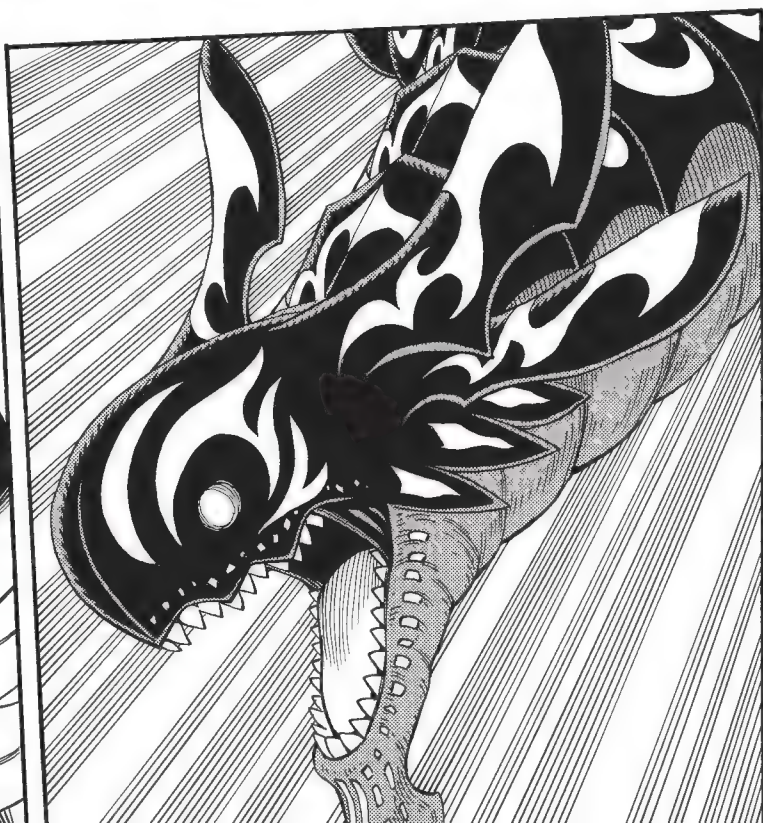
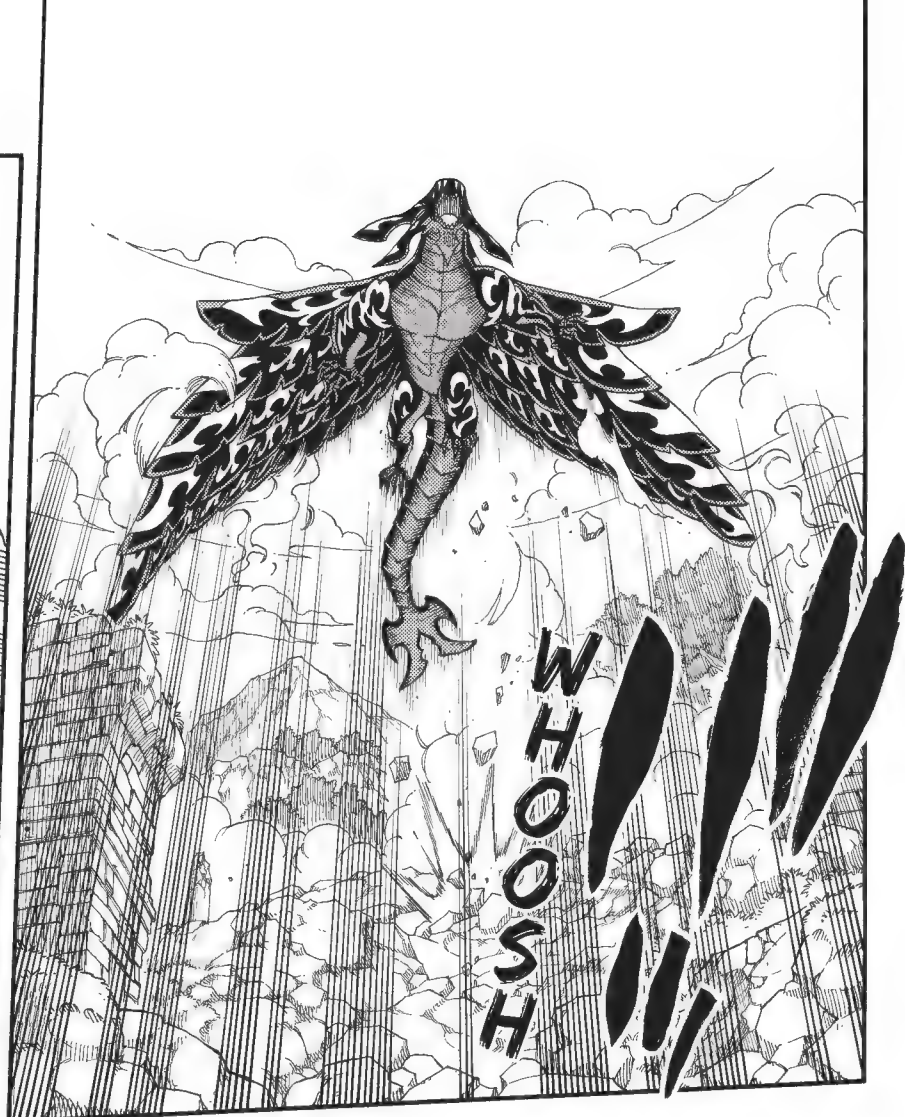
It's
coming
down!!!



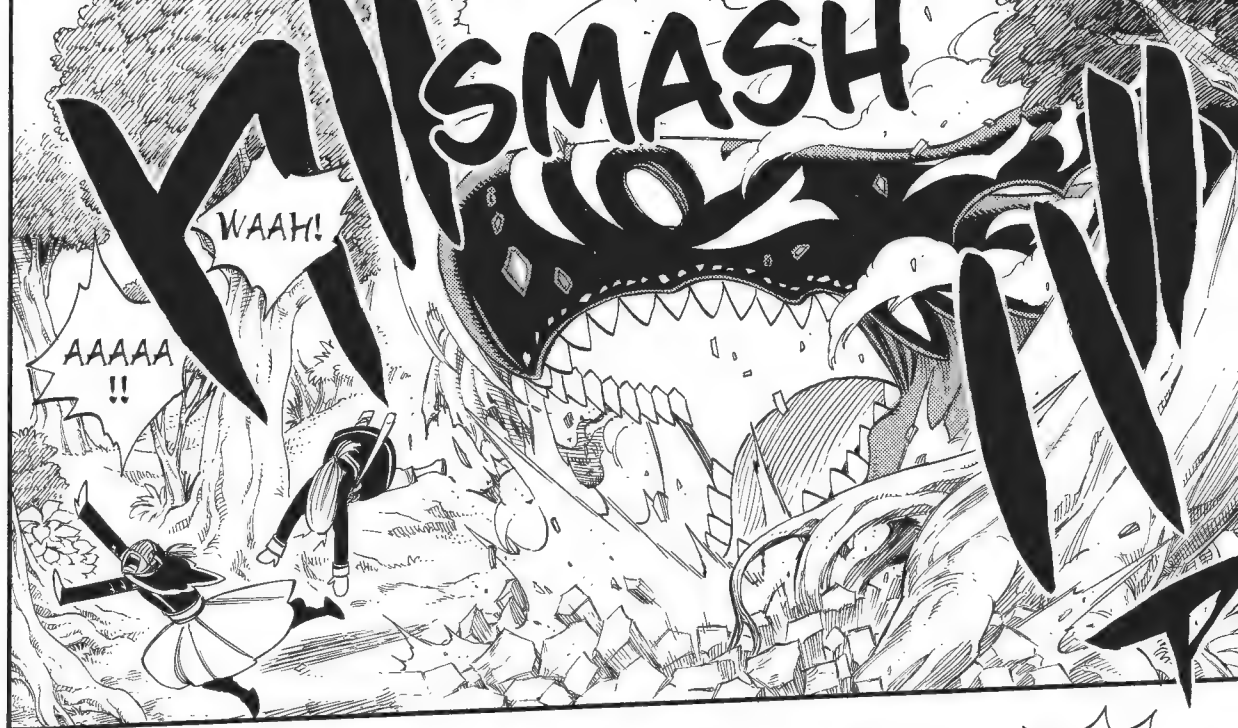
GAWHOOM











Can't
you try
now?!!

Wendy!!!
I thought
you could
talk to
dragons!



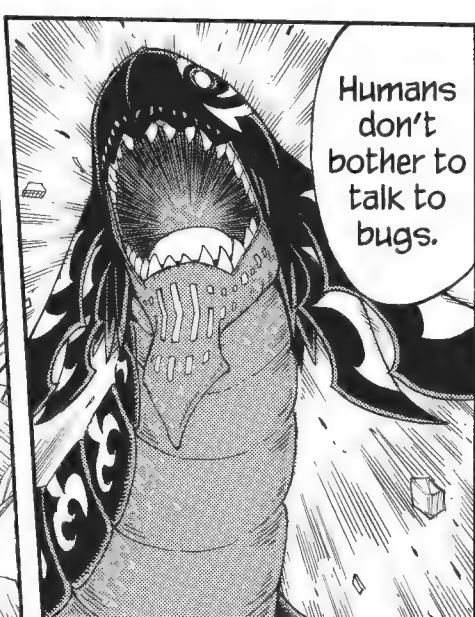
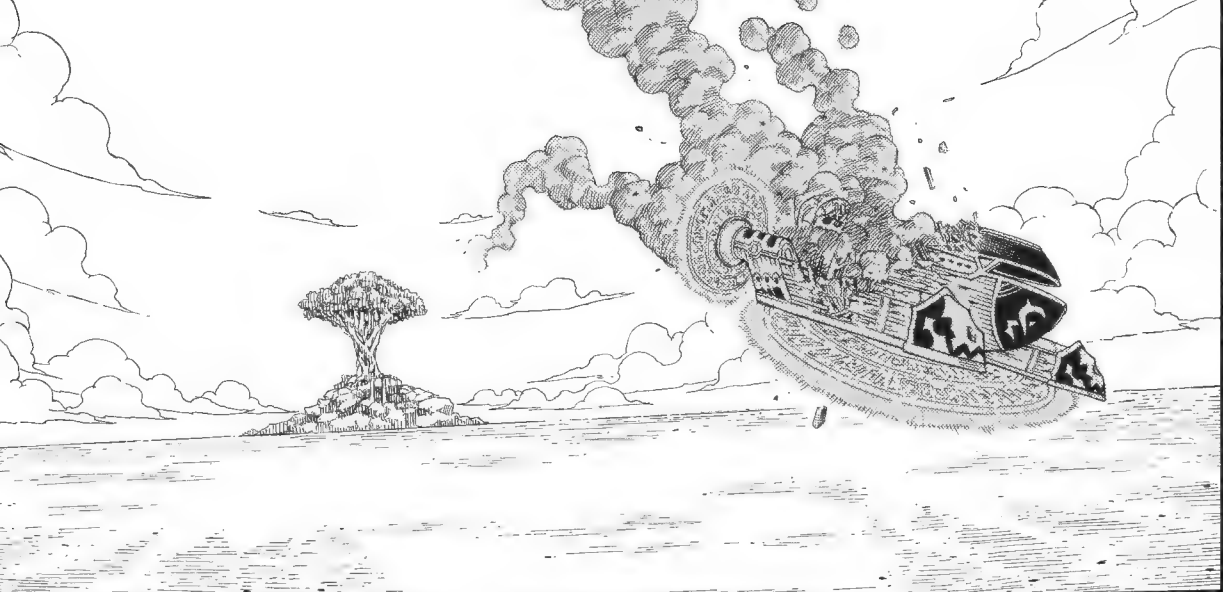
Top
priority
now is to
get home!
Back
to Fairy
Tail!!!!



This dragon
should be able
to understand
human lan-
guage, too!



It isn't
just me!! All
dragons have
really high
intelligence!





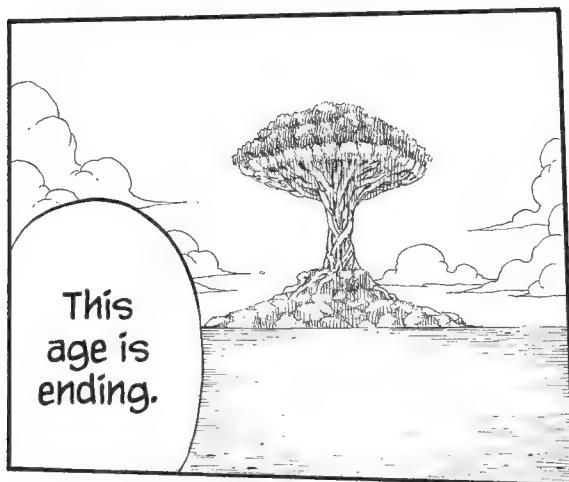
Humanity
is about to
learn that
lesson.



This
world has
enemies that
cannot be
opposed.



Similarly,
there is no one
who expends
all his power
simply to kill
a bug.



This
age is
ending.

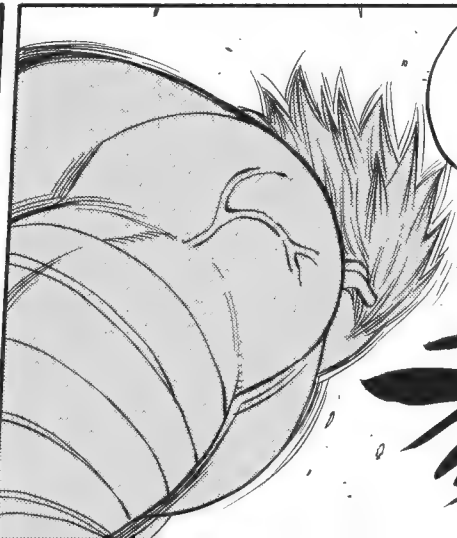


I can see...
that I have
another very
long road
ahead of
me.



Natsu.

Farewell
...





We'll
tear it
apart!!!

We can
enter
this
fight
too!



Run!
ZLITCH

Run!

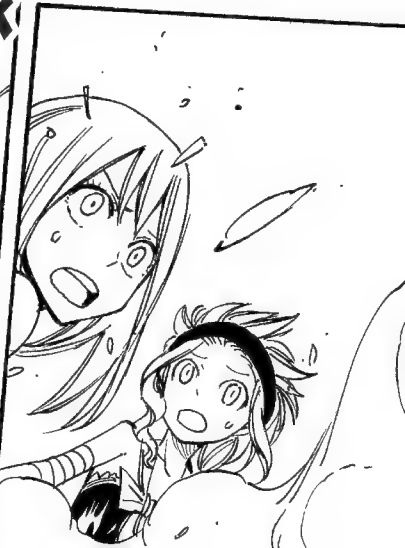


Master!!
Please
stop!!!

He can't
stand up
to some-
thing like
that!!!



KOFF





**You
damn
brats
!!!!**

**Can't
you follow
your master's
orders just
this one last
time?!!!**



**If that
thing
needs an
enemy,
then I...**

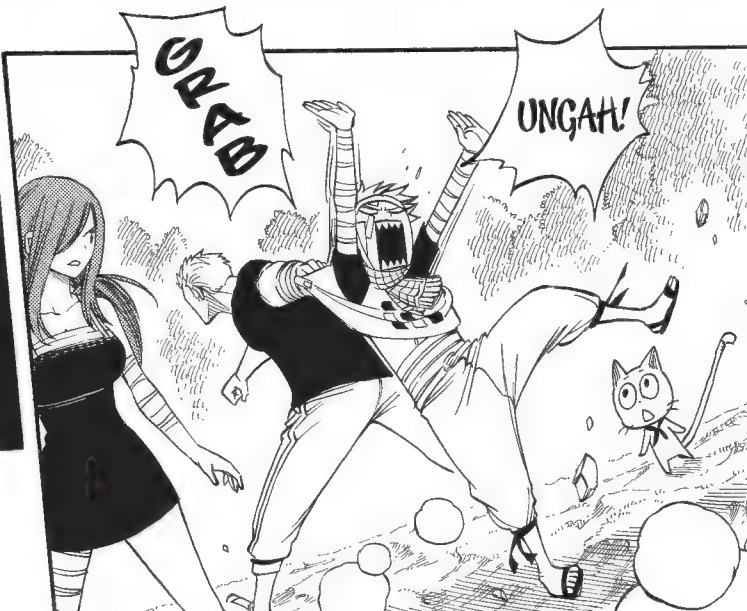
**I'm the
dragon
slayer
here!!!!**

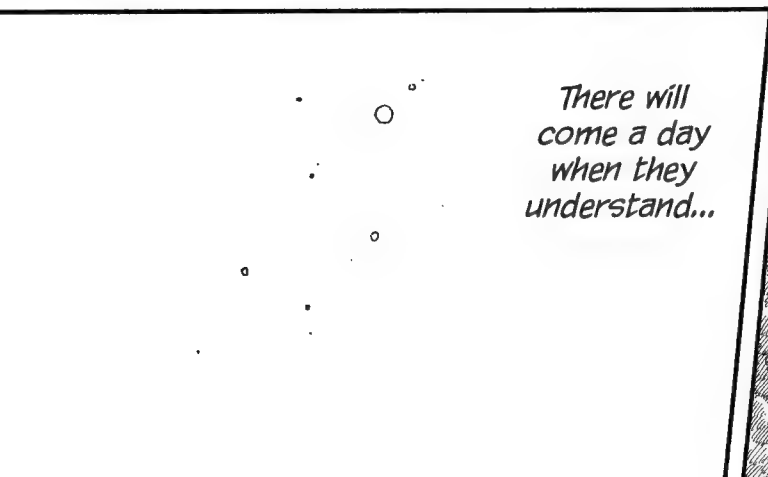
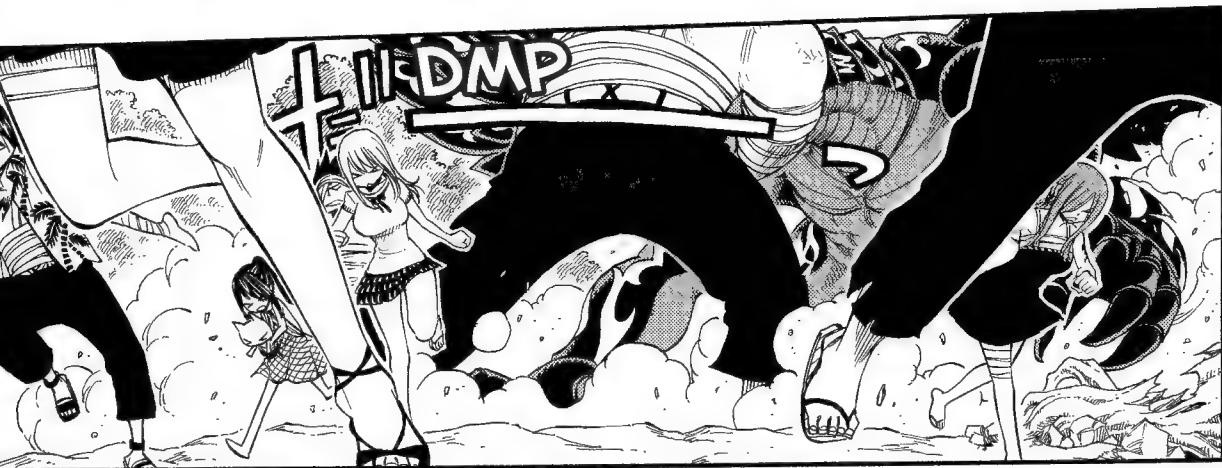
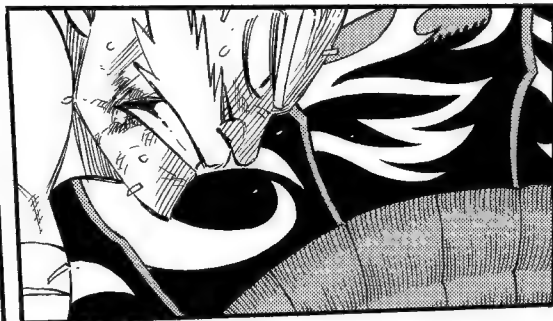
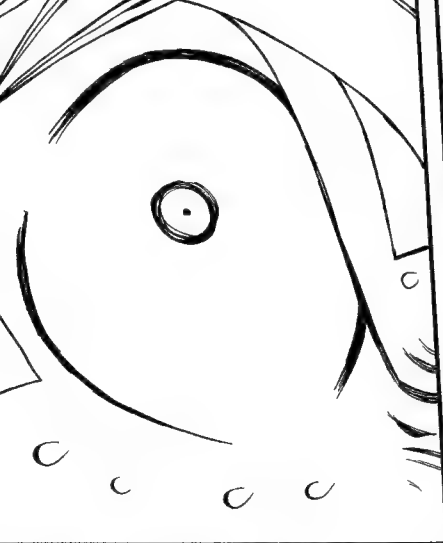


**"Last
time"
mP**

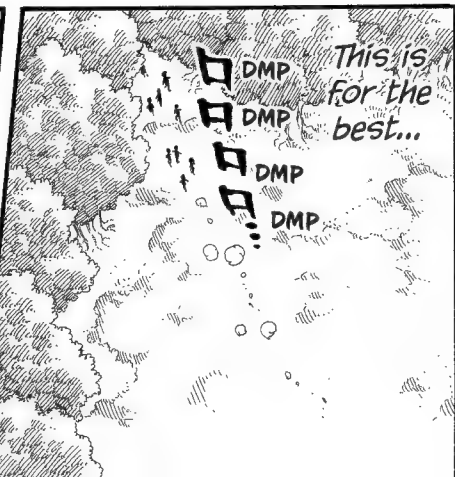


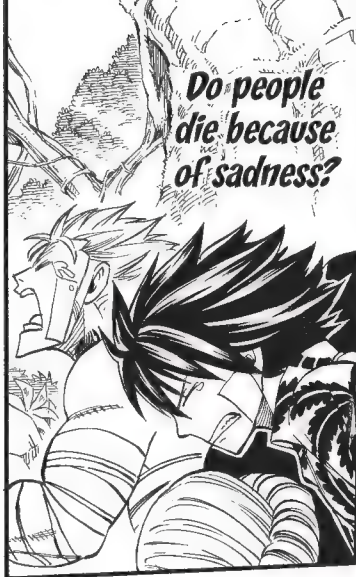
**We're
running,
Natsu
!!!**



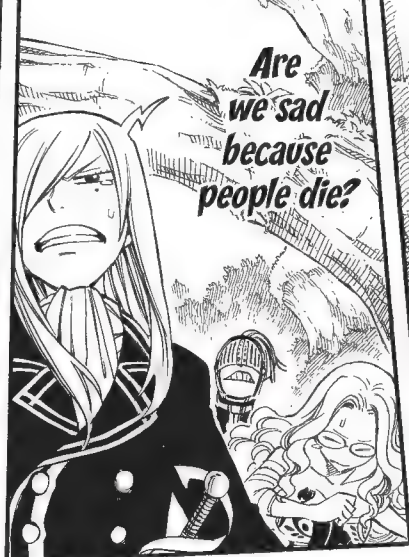


There will
come a day
when they
understand...





*Do people
die because
of sadness?*



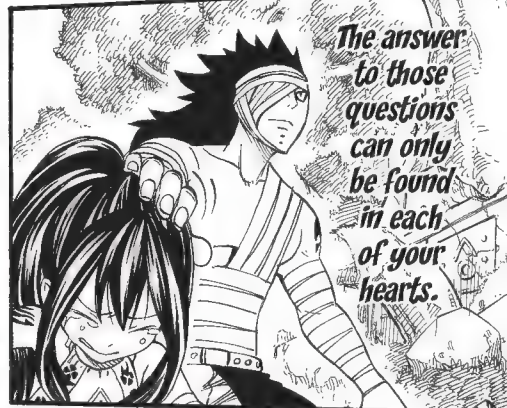
*Are
we sad
because
people die?*



*Tears
mean
little in
them-
selves!*



*You
prideful
brats!*



*The answer
to those
questions
can only
be found
in each
of your
hearts.*



*Live
on!!!!*

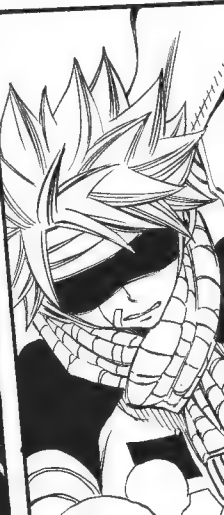
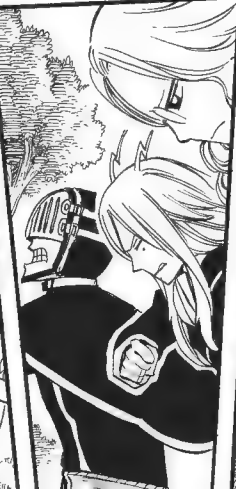
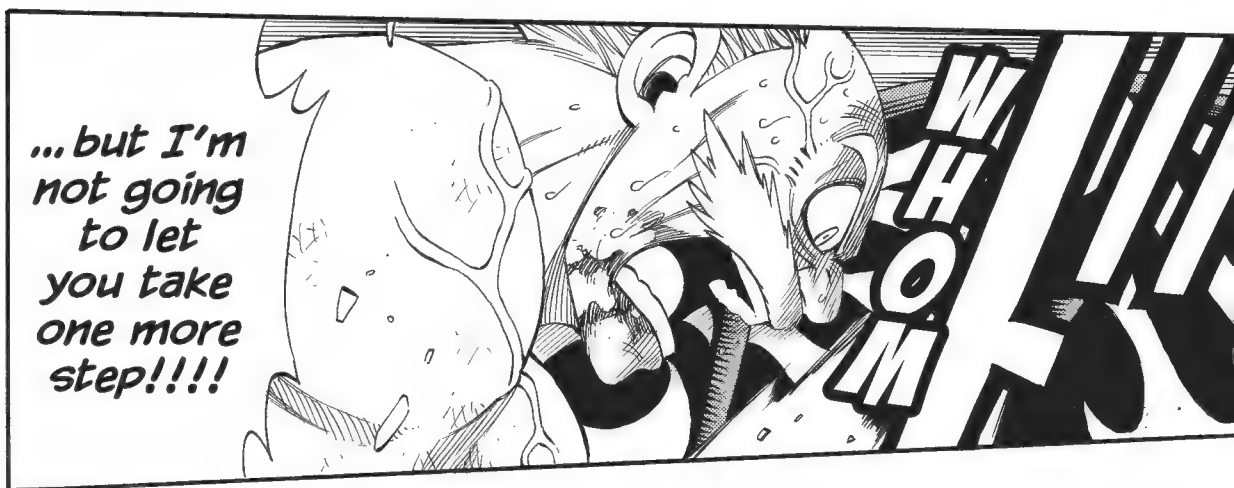
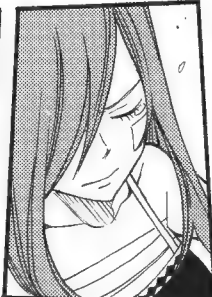
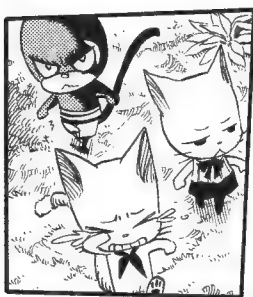
*Into
the
future
!!!!*



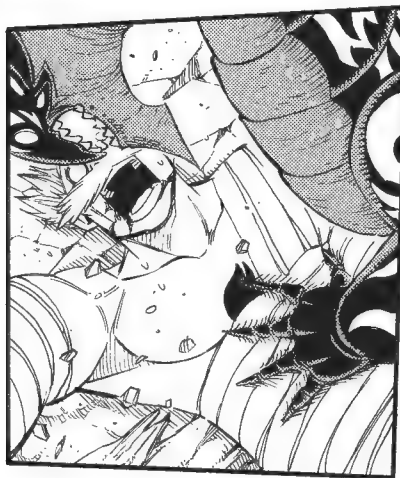
FAIRY TAIL

Chapter 253: Let's Join Hands











**At
last, I
have no
regrets
!!!!**

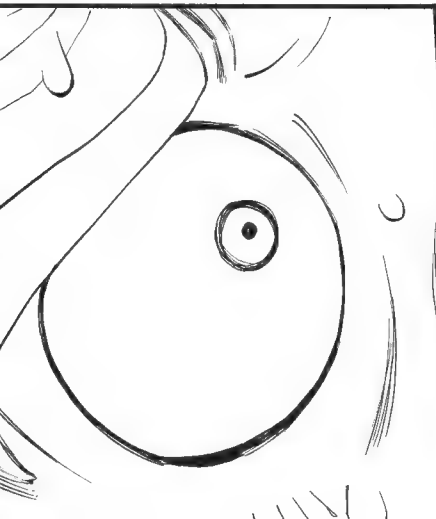


**I
finally...**

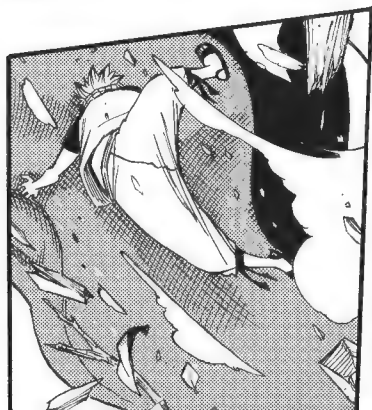
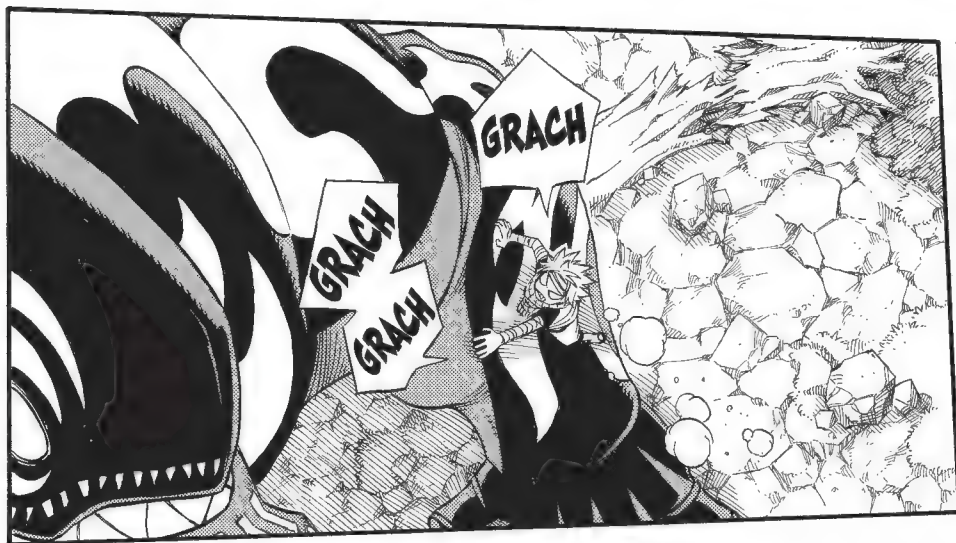
**...
acted
like a
father!**



DMP



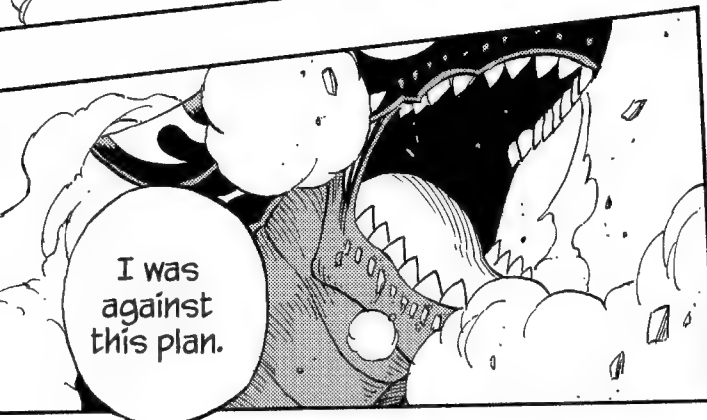
**KIR-CHIA
KIR-CHIA
KIR-CHIA
KIR-CHIA**



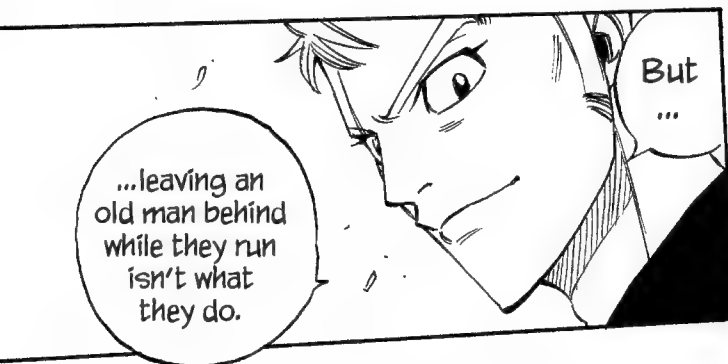




You...

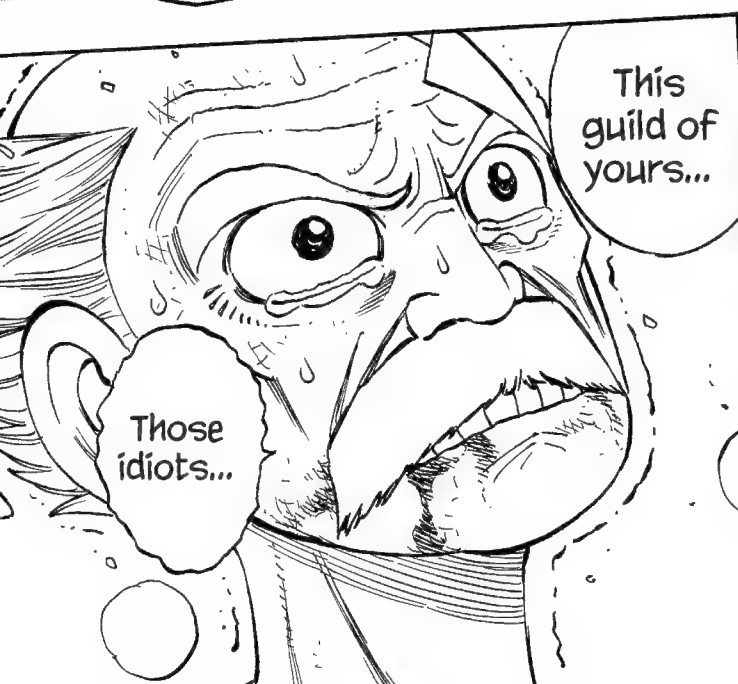


I was
against
this plan.



But
...

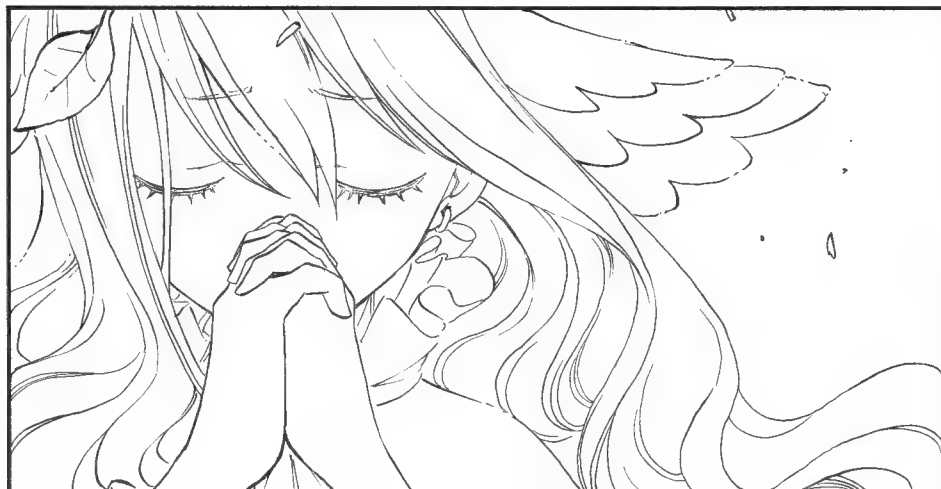
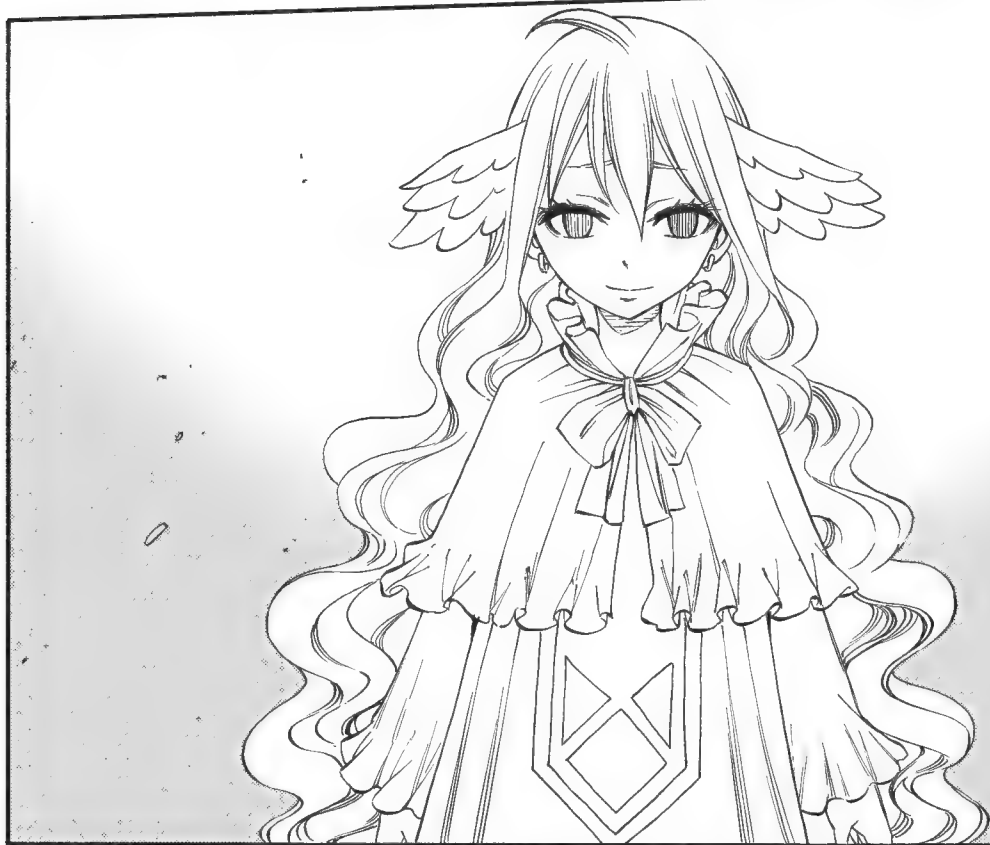
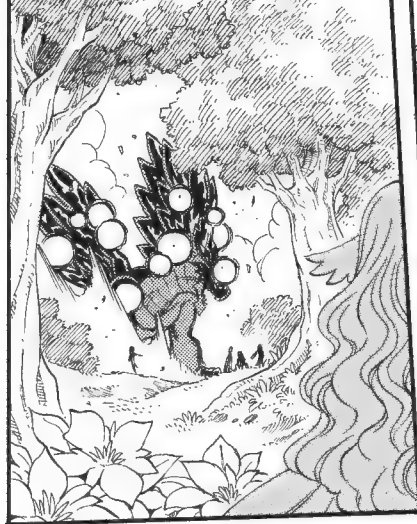
...leaving an
old man behind
while they run
isn't what
they do.



This
guild of
yours...

Those
idiots...









Is it trying to erase the entire island?!!

No...

No way...



Its
breath
attack
!!!



Let's join hands!!

Everybody...
concentrate
your power
on Fried and
Levy!!!



That's
right,
Levy!!

There are
lots of
other kinds
of defensive
word-based
magic!!

There's
no time
to write a
Jutsu-
shiki!



Right
!!!

Anyone with
defensive
magic, bring
forth everything
you have!!!!



GRAB

We have to
combine all our
power!!!! Let's
show 'im what
binds our guild
together!!!!



GRAB



Yeah!!!
We'll never
give up
!!!!



GRAB

We're not
gonna let
this end
here!!!!

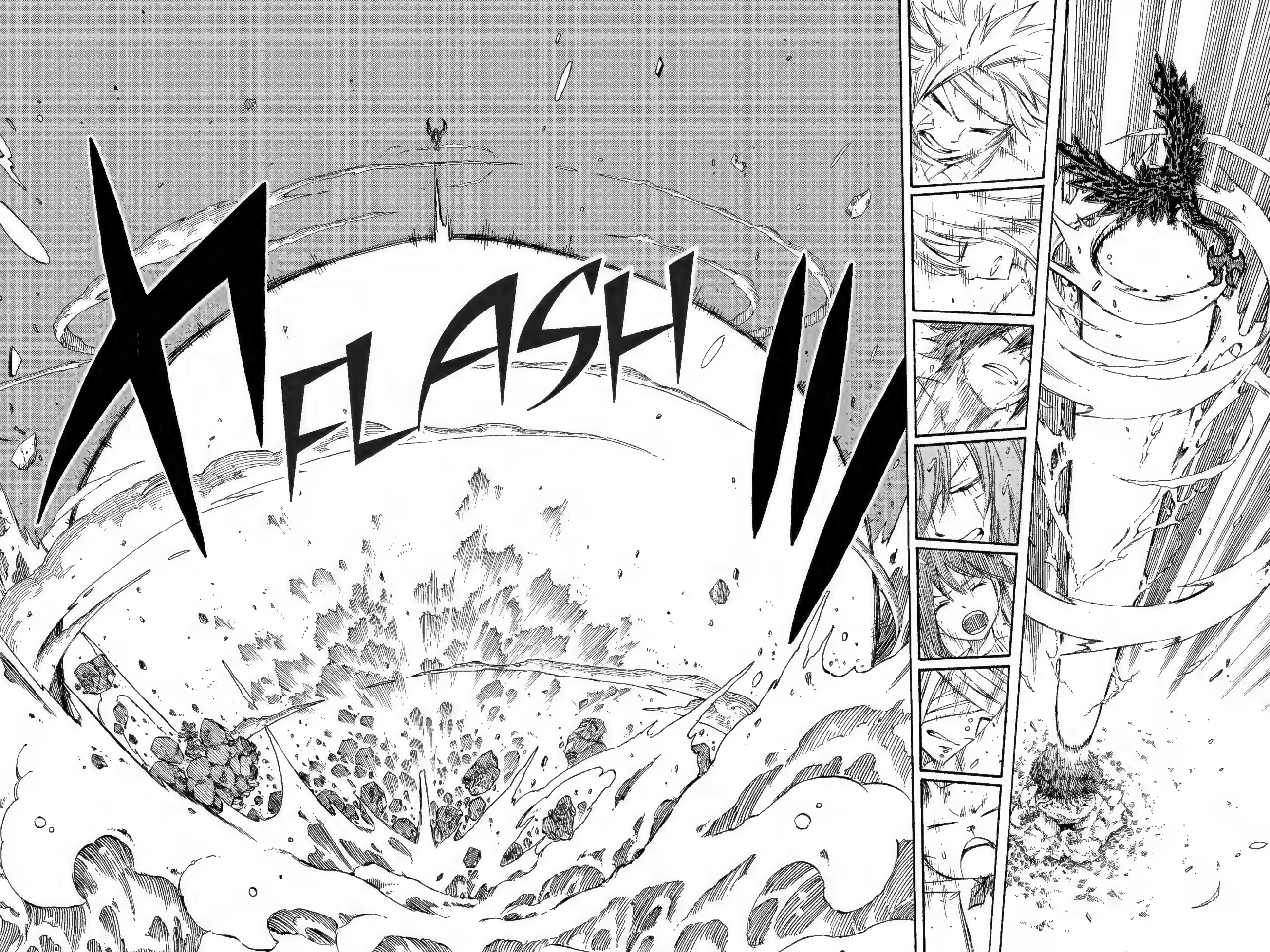


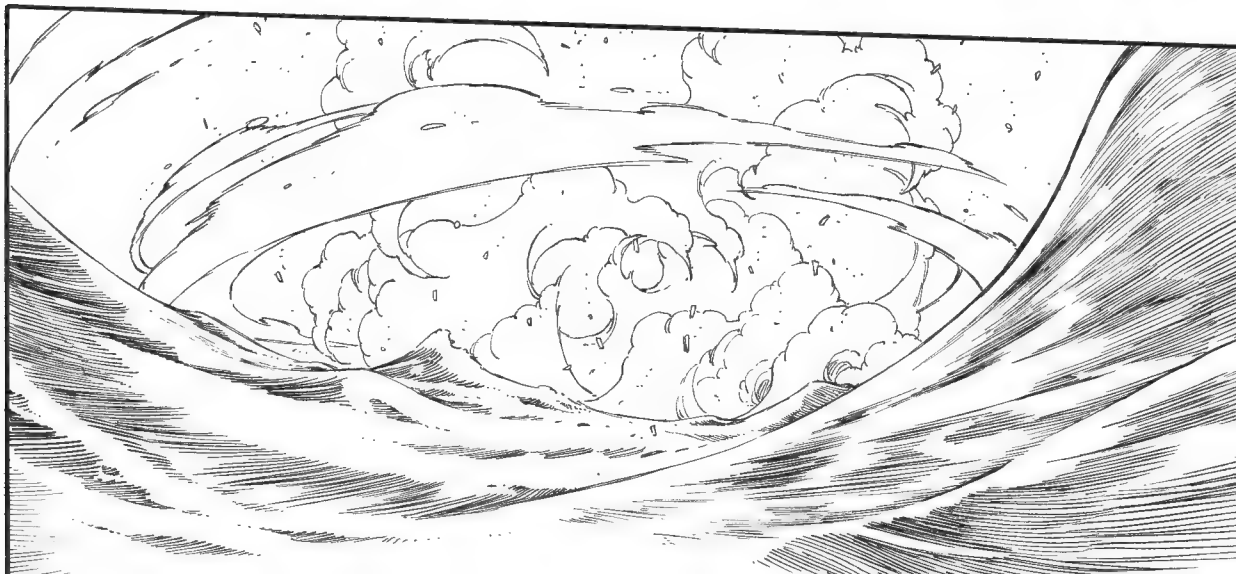
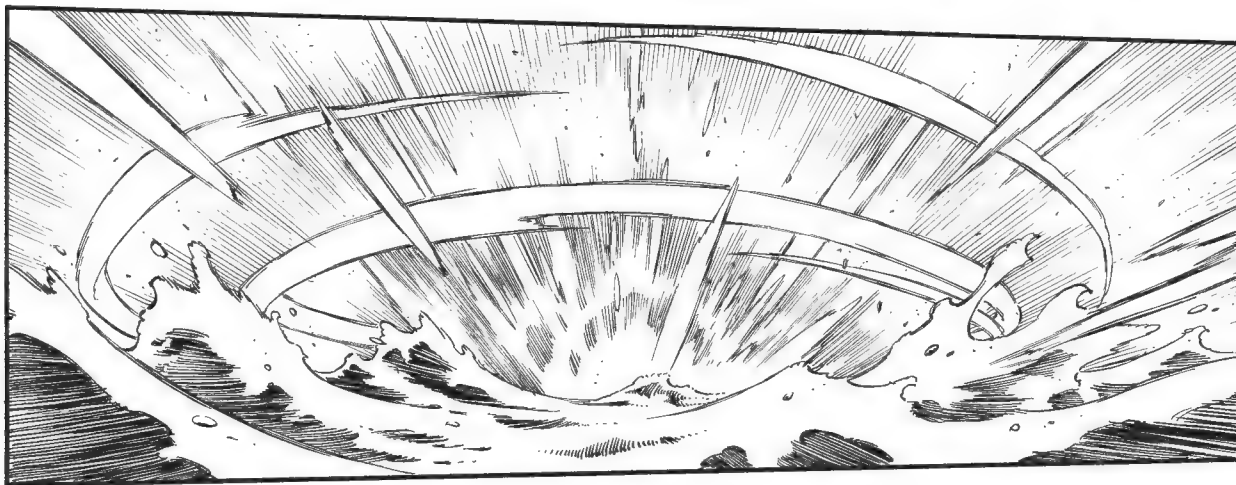


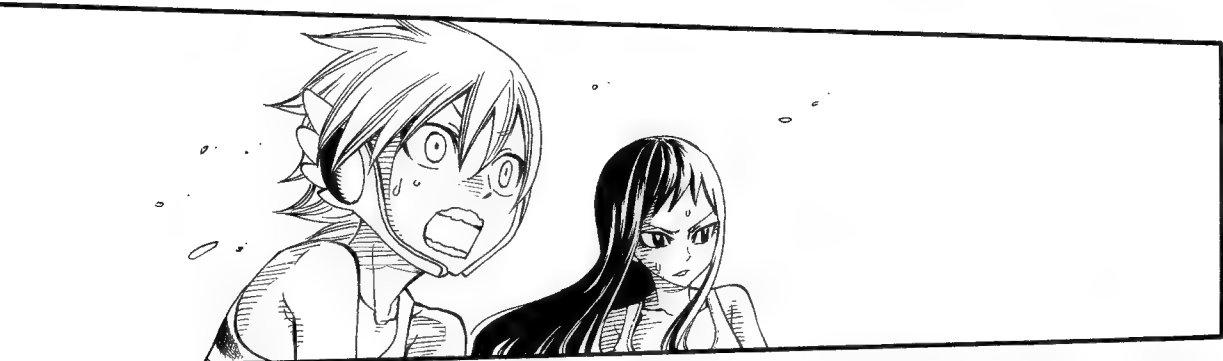
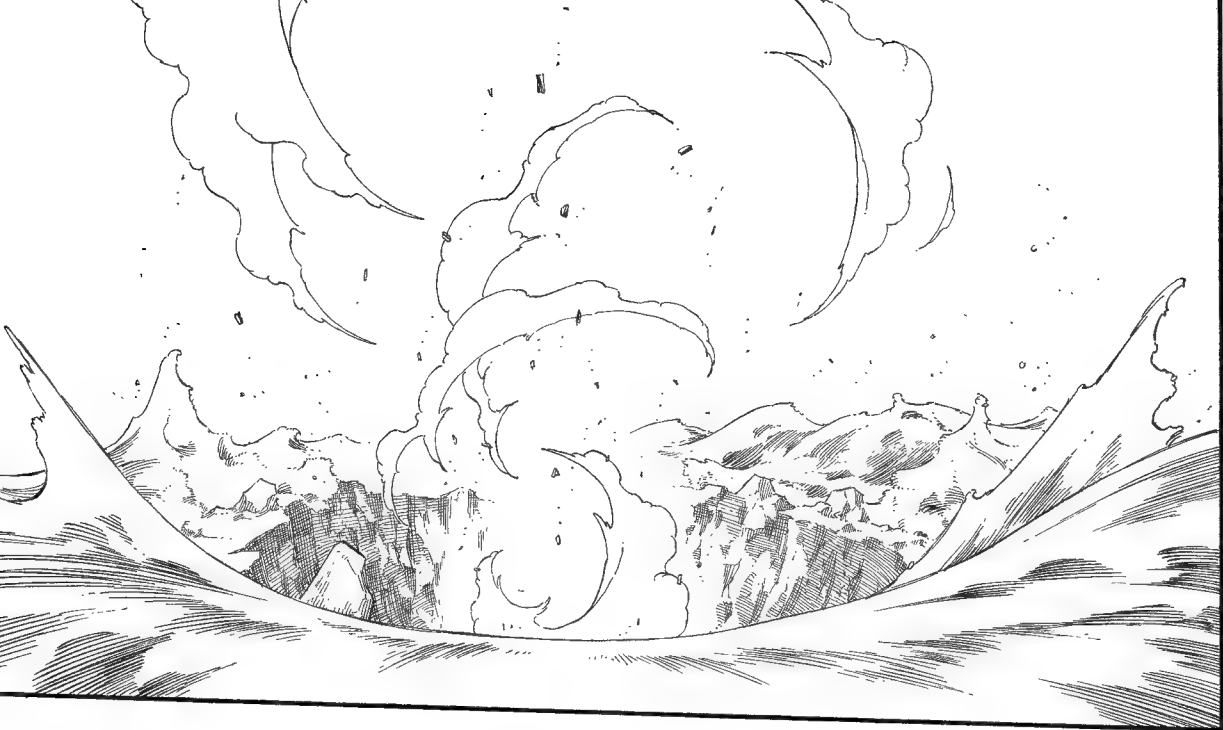
Let's all
go home
together
...

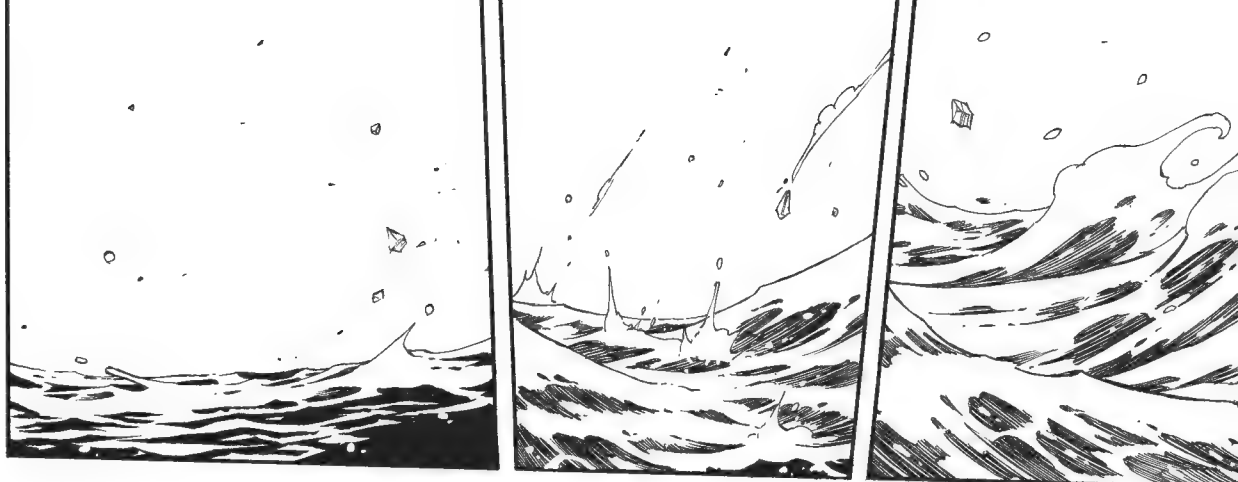


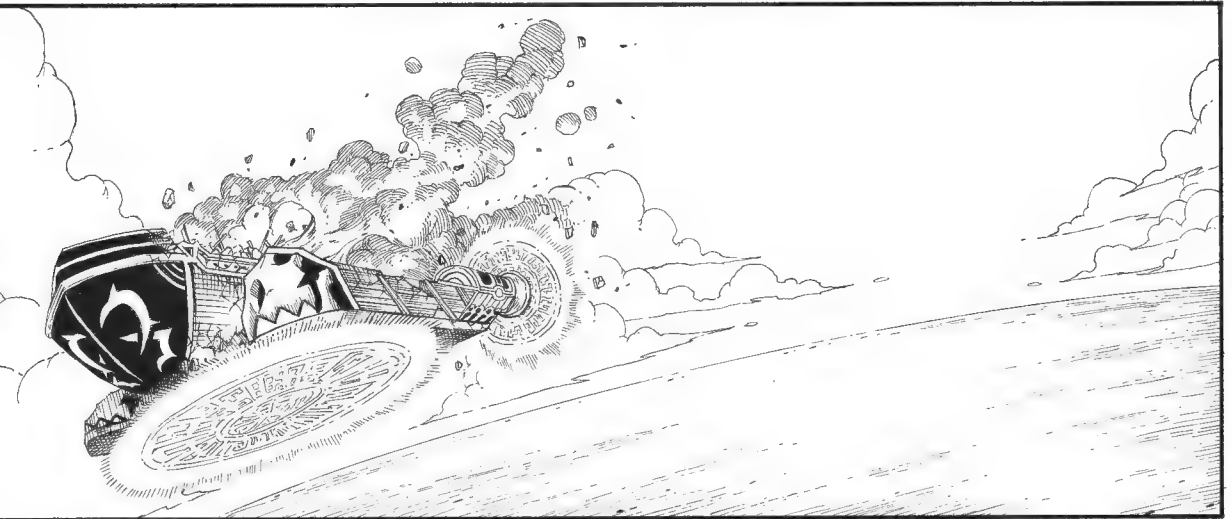
...to
Fairy
Tail!











... Sirius Island was annihilated by Acnologia.

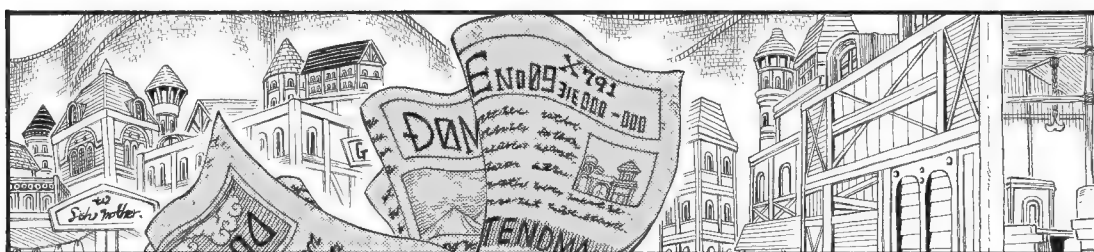
On December 16 in the year X784...

*...but
found
no sur-
vivors.*



*For the
next six
months,
ships
combed
the area,
search-
ing...*

*Then,
Acno-
logia
disap-
peared
again.*



*... seven
years
passed.*

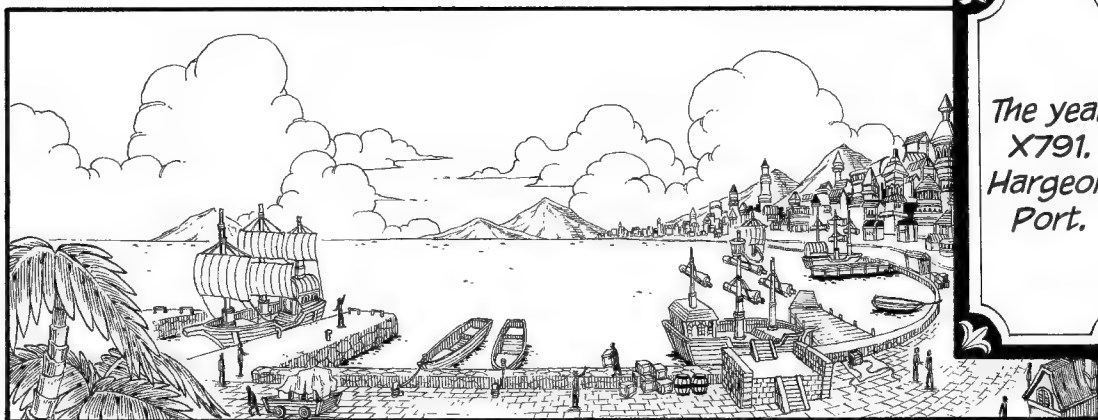


*And
so...*

FAIRY TAIL

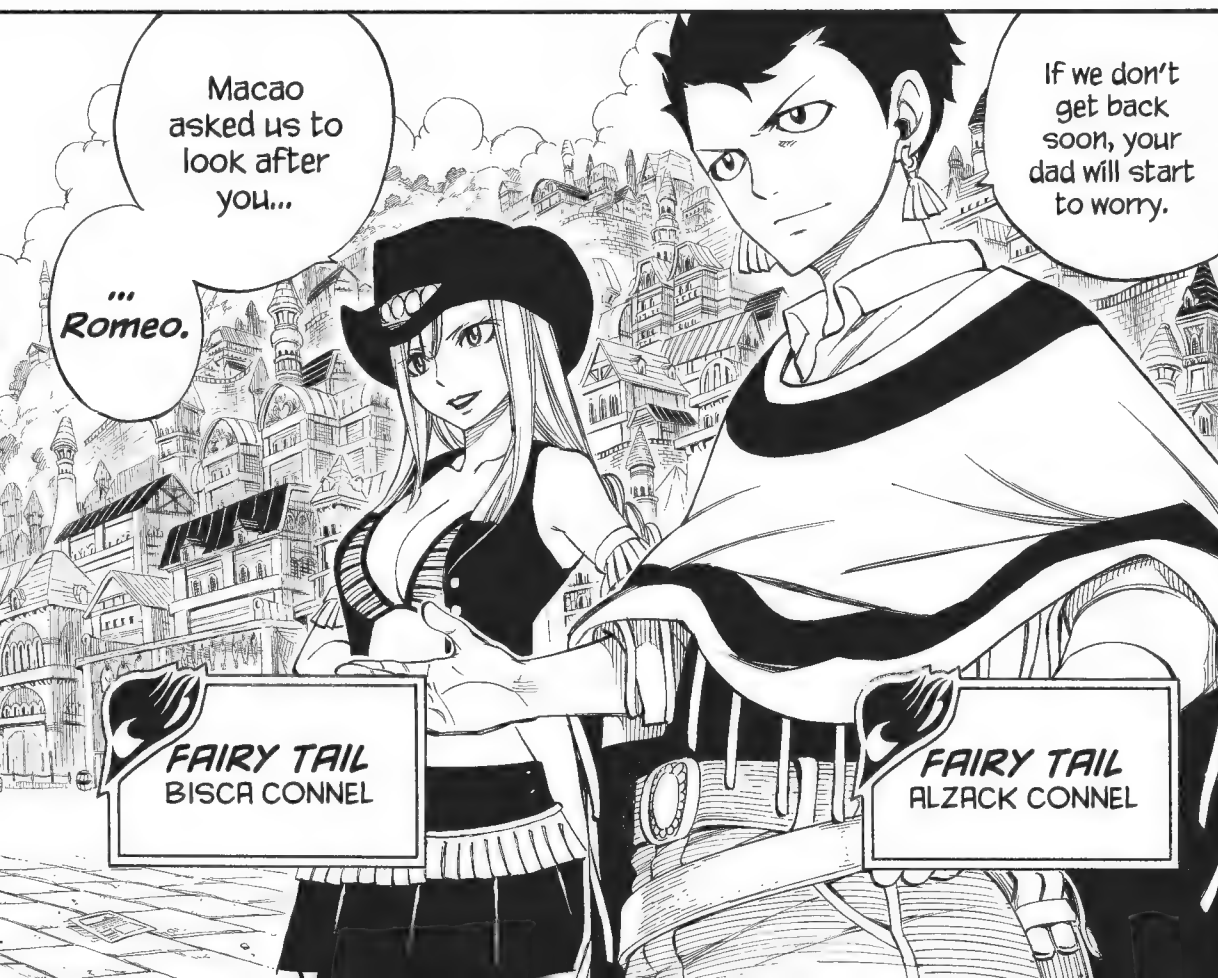
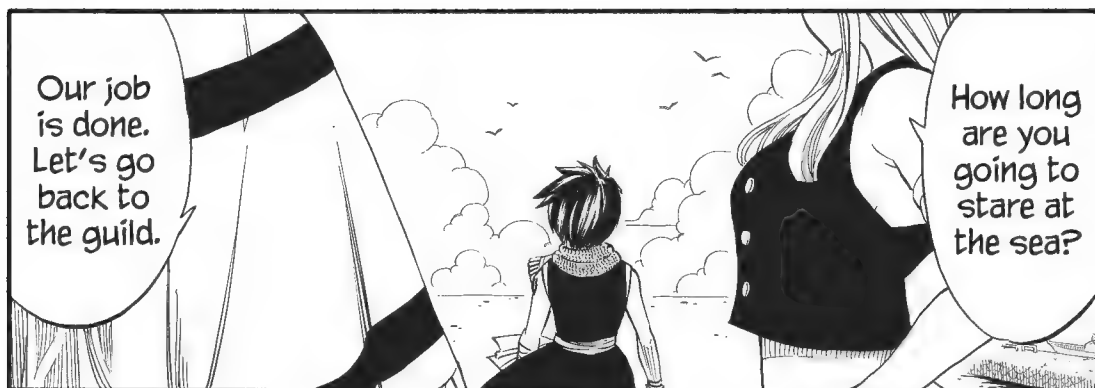
Chapter 254:
Fairy Tail, X791

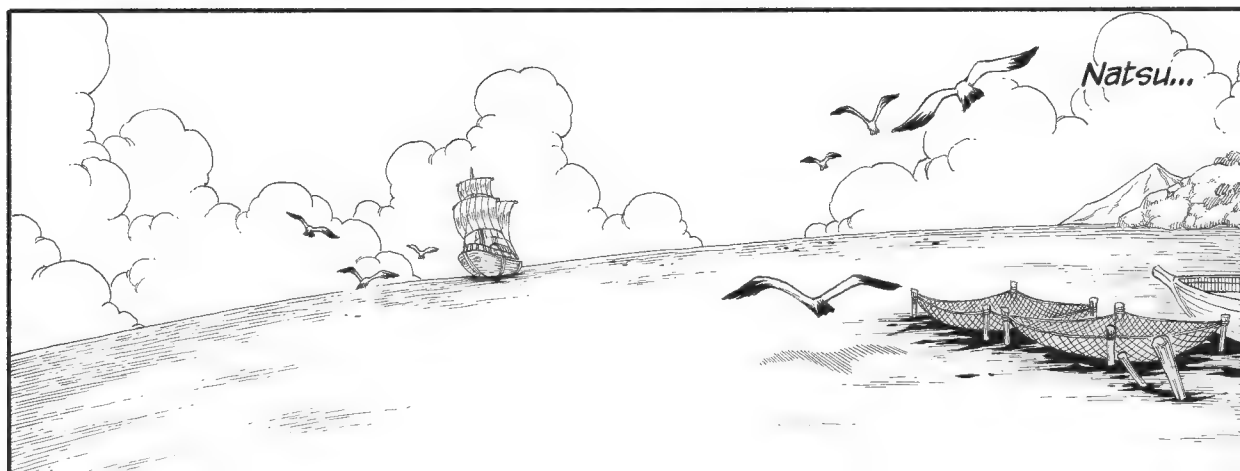
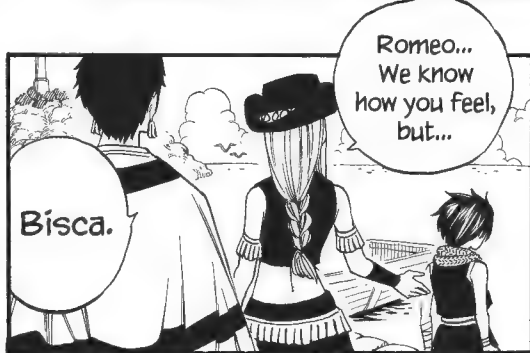
Hiro Mashima



*The year
X791.
Hargeon
Port.*









Mag-
nolia.



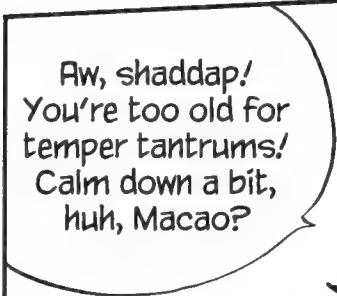
The
wizard
guild
Fairy
Tail.



Isn't
Romeo
back
yet?!!



FAIRY TAIL
FOURTH MASTER
MACAO CONBOLT



FAIRY TAIL
ADVISOR TO THE
FOURTH MASTER
WAKABA MINE



FAIRY TAIL
MAX ALOZE



Don't we have even fewer wizards now?



FAIRY TAIL
NAB LASARO

FAIRY TAIL
WARREN ROCCO

What do you expect? Nobody sends any good jobs to a weakass guild like ours!

Look at this!! There are almost no jobs at all!

You never go on jobs anyway, so it's got nothing to do with you.



Are you putting more pressure on the Earth?

Say, Droy...

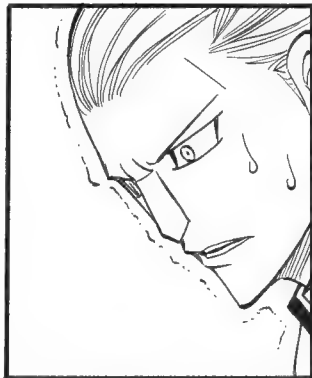
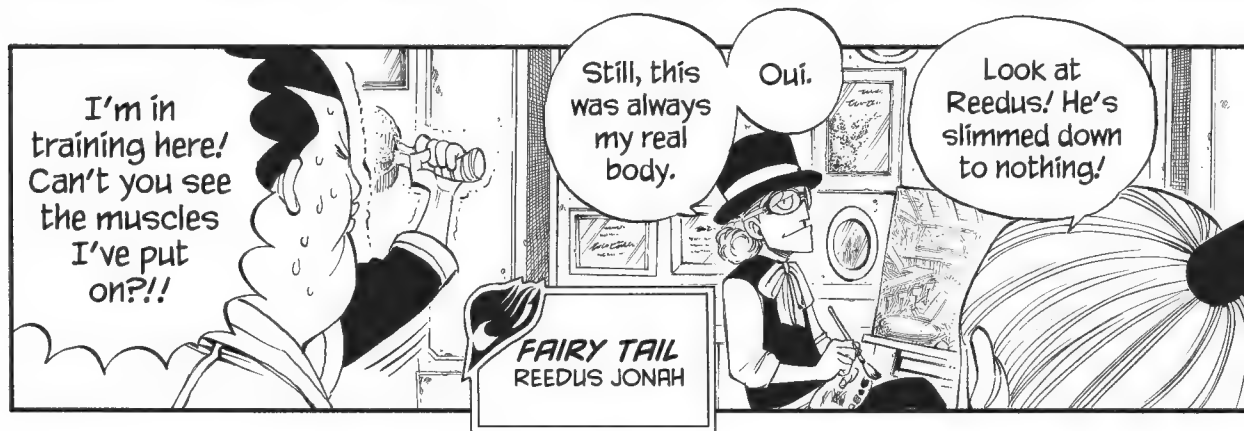
I'm gonna be sick. Somebody kick him out.

I call it the Weak Ass Dance!

Everybody, look!! I've finished my brand-new dance!

FAIRY TAIL
LAKI OLIVIA

FAIRY TAIL
VIJEETER ECOR





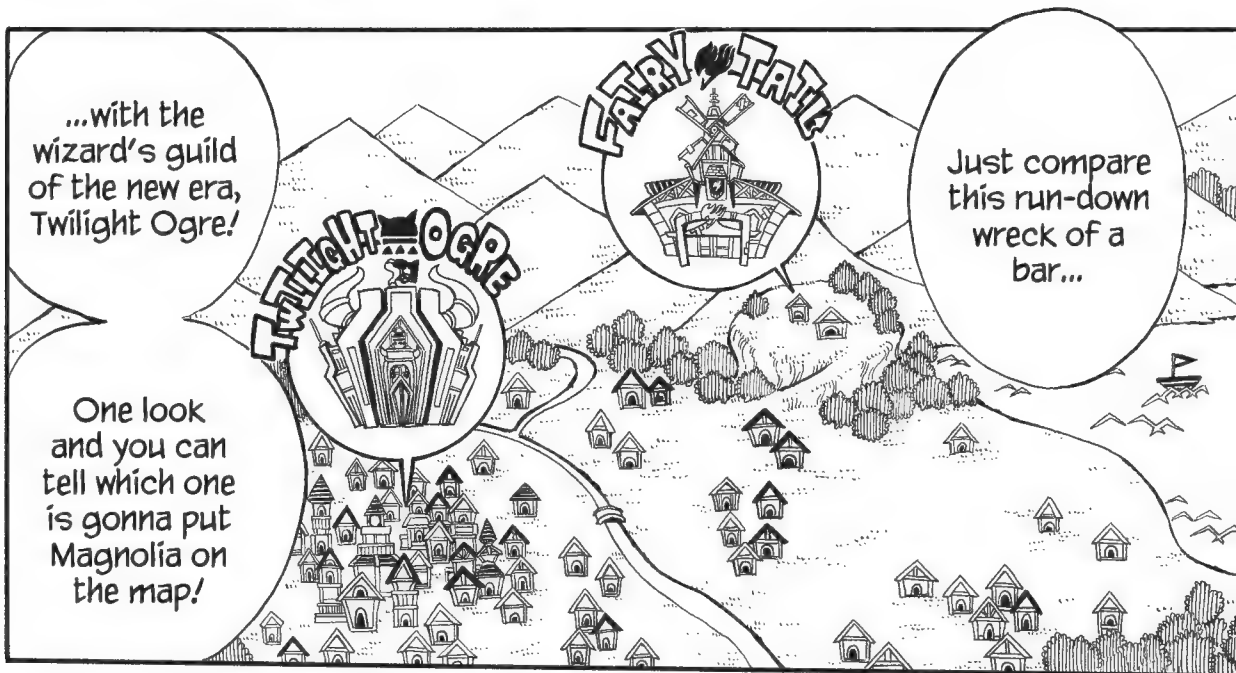


But *your* time is over!

Maybe you *were* the strongest in Fiore way back when, and maybe not...



Kh...



...with the wizard's guild of the new era, Twilight Ogre!

Fairy Tail

Twilight Ogre

Just compare this run-down wreck of a bar...

One look and you can tell which one is gonna put Magnolia on the map!



?!



Our money for this month! Fork it over.



What're you here for, Thibault?

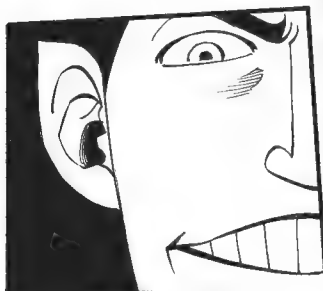
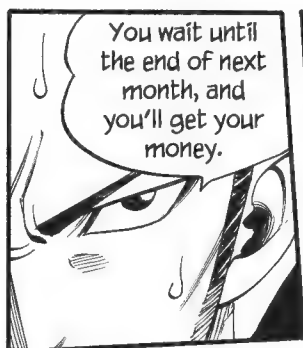
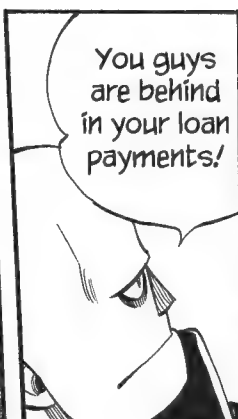


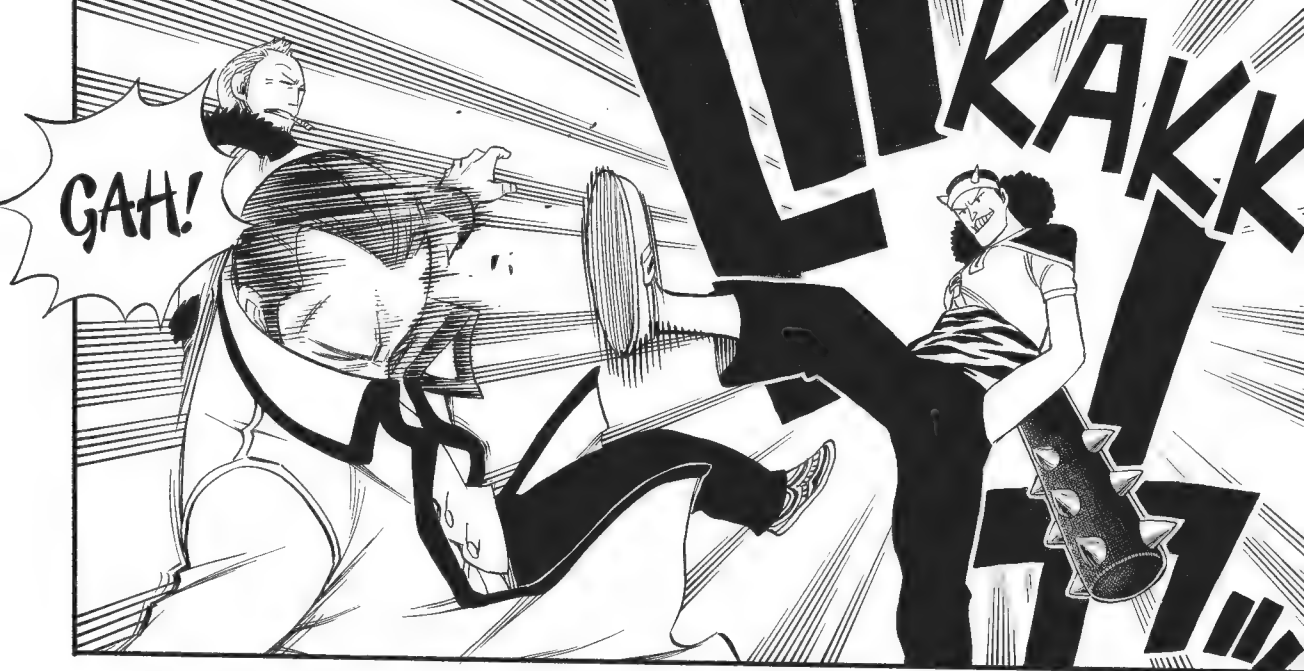
"Spirit" won't buy food.

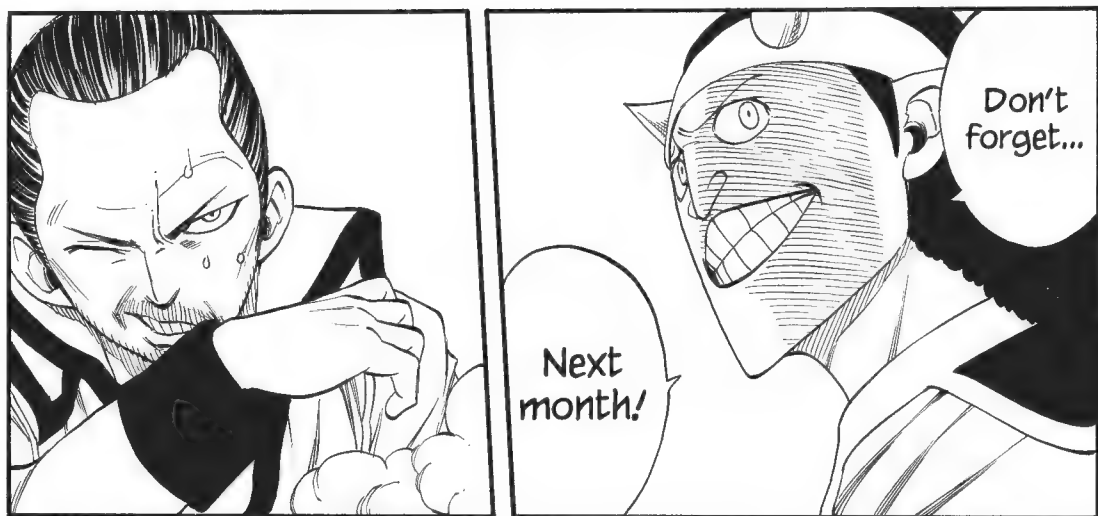


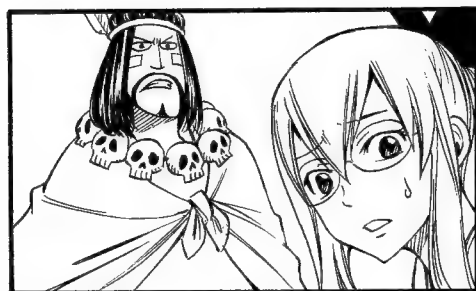
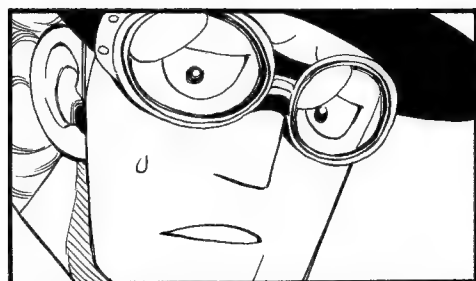
A huge building doesn't mean anything! Don't talk so big!

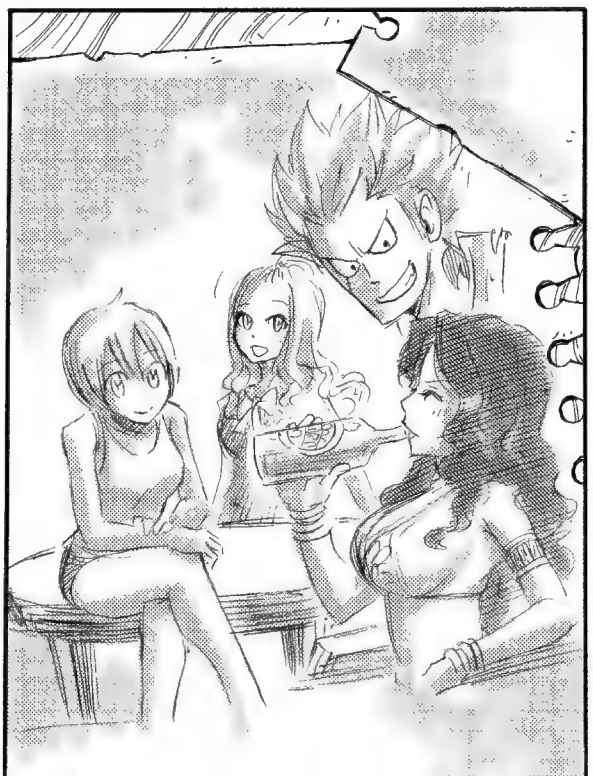
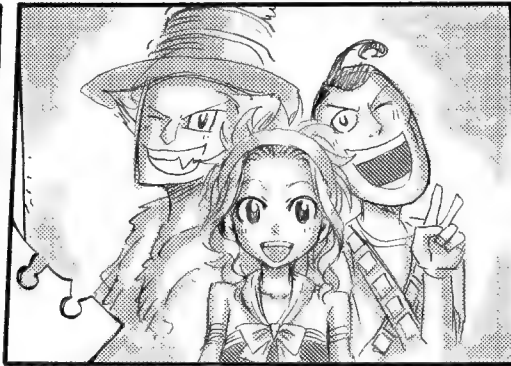
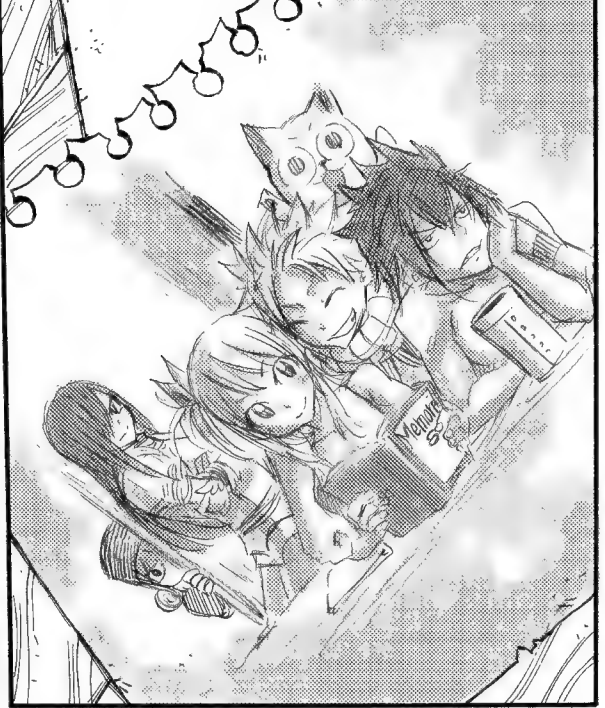
Right!! We got *spirit* here!



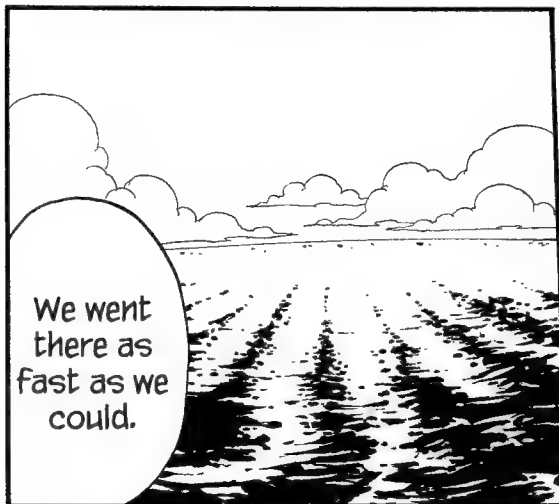
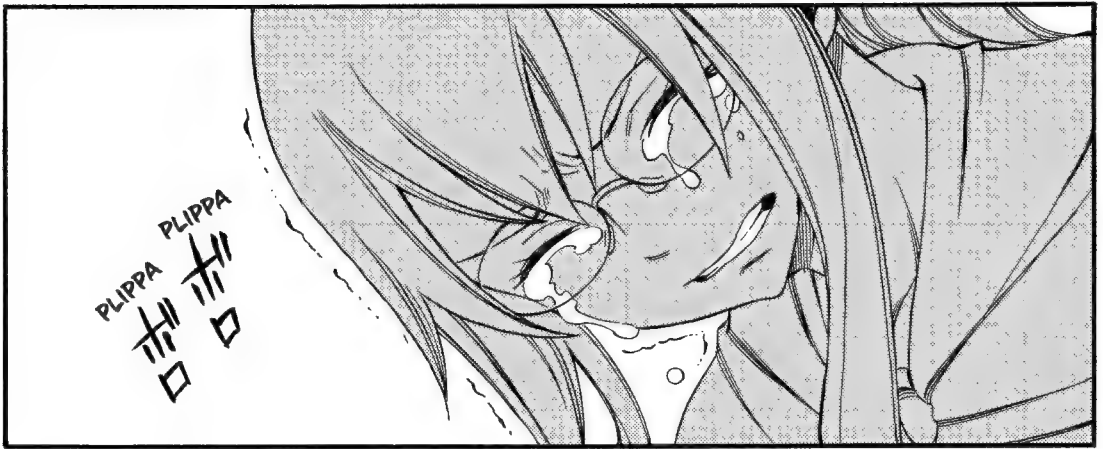


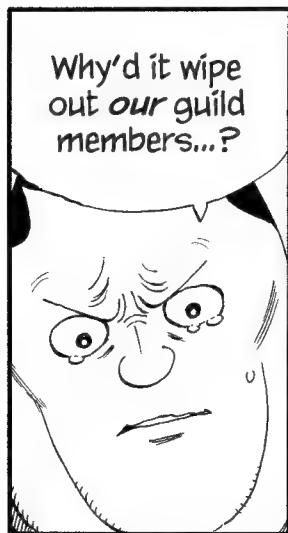






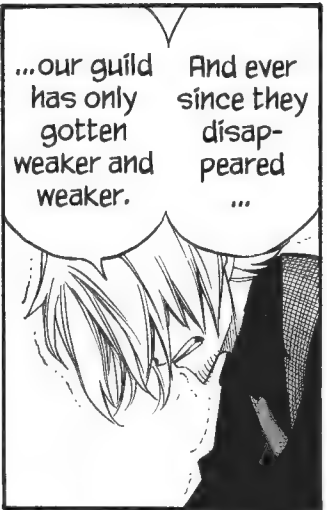








While a
brand new
guild set up
in Magnolia.



...our guild
has only
gotten
weaker and
weaker.

And ever
since they
disap-
peared
...

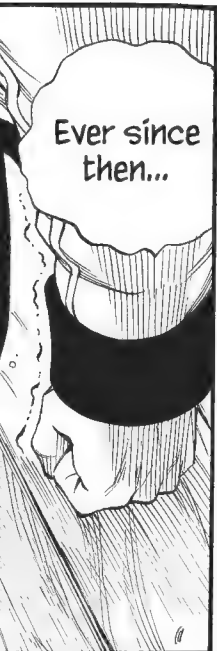


!



It may be
time to
close up
shop.

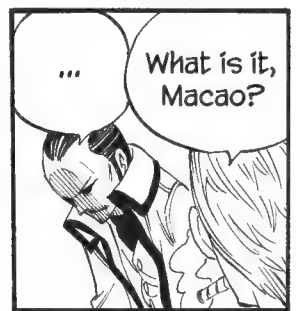
Don't
talk like
that!!!



Ever since
then...



**You're
doin' great,
Master!**



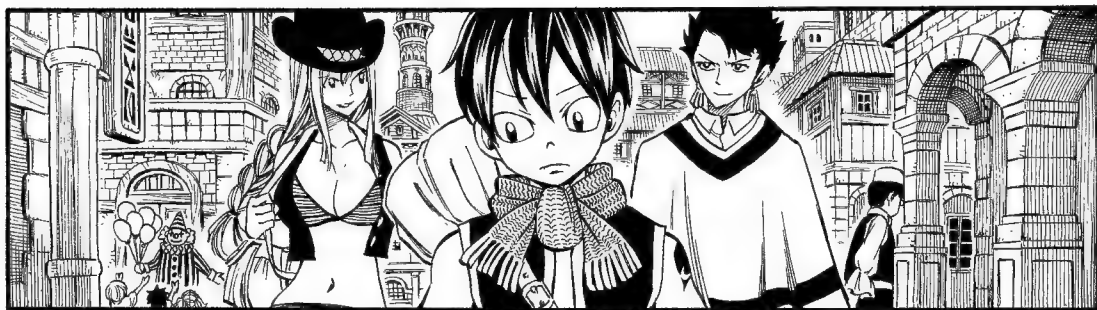
...

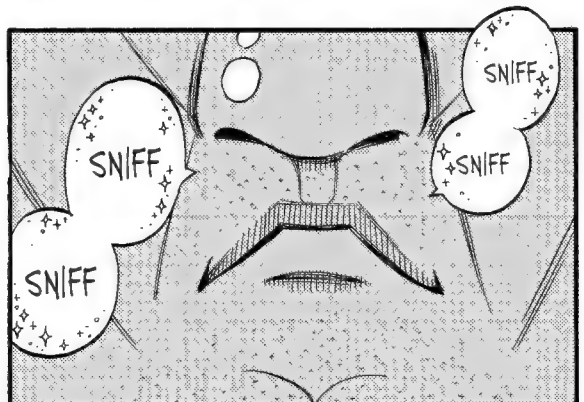
What is it,
Macao?

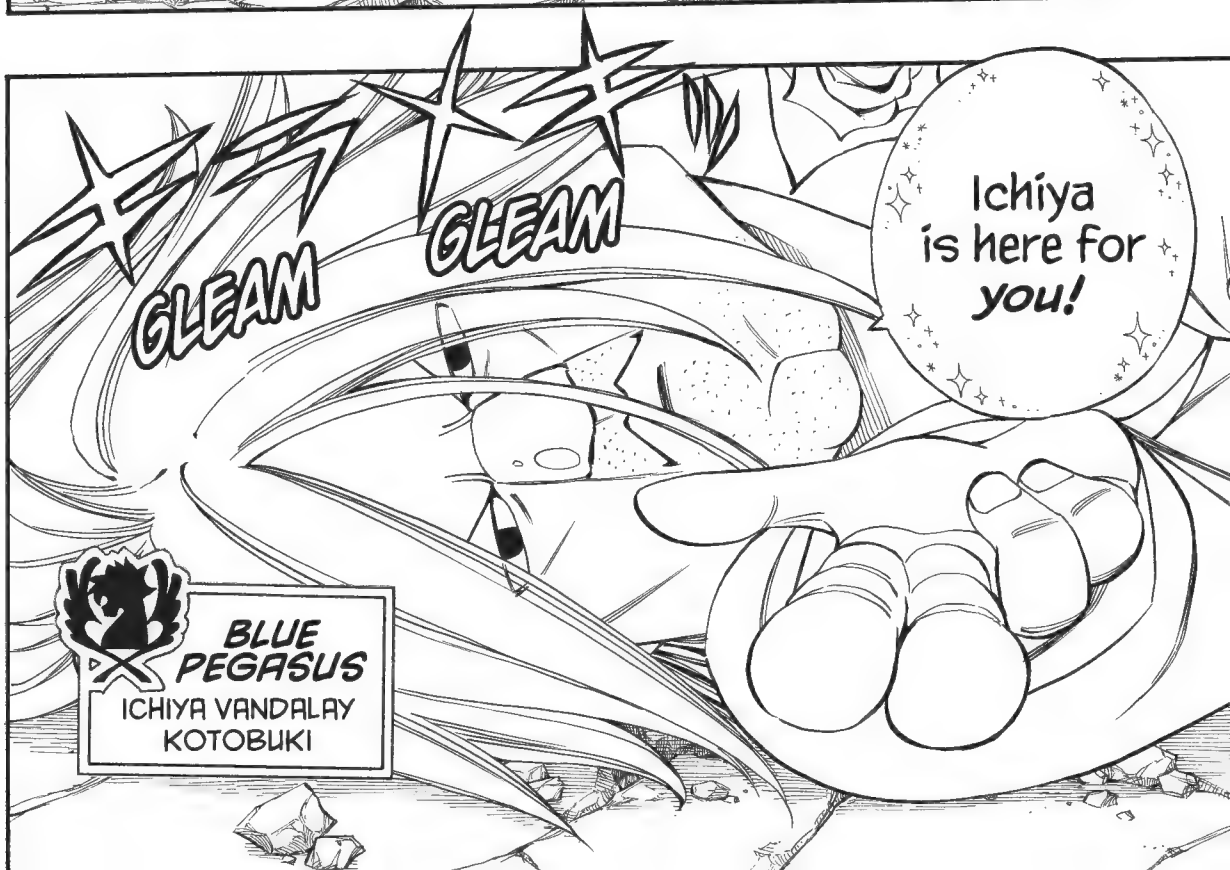
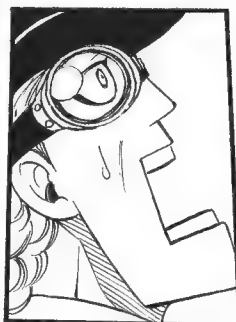


I think my heart
is about to split
in two.

WHISPER









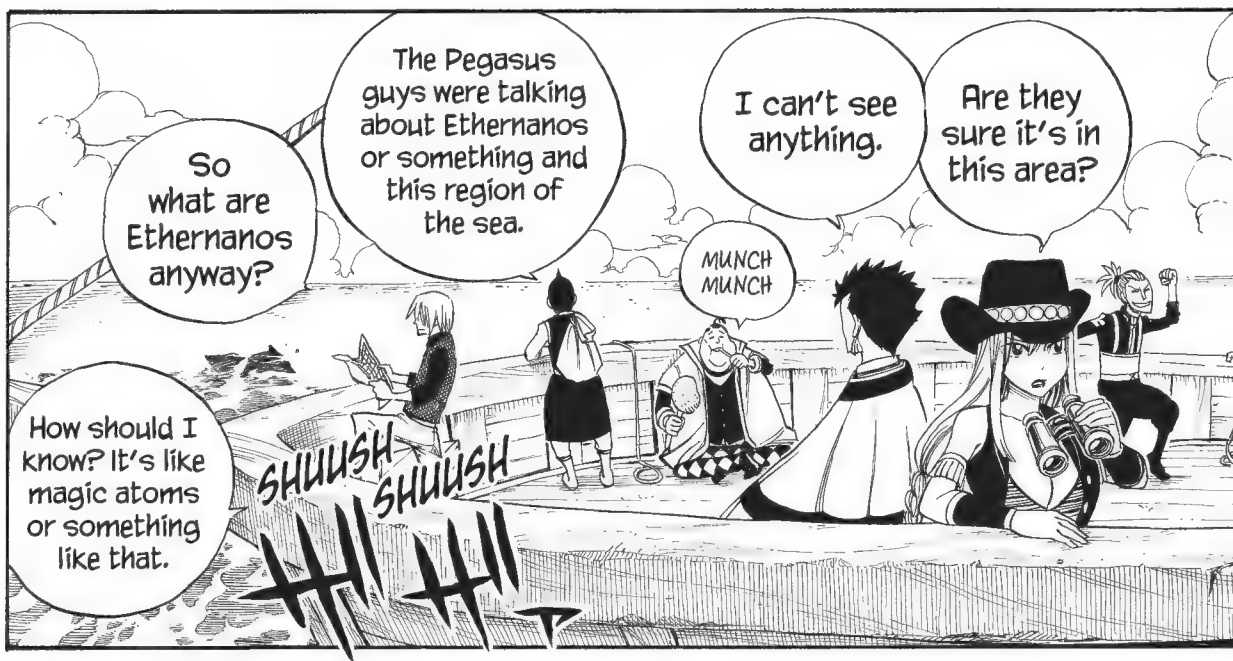
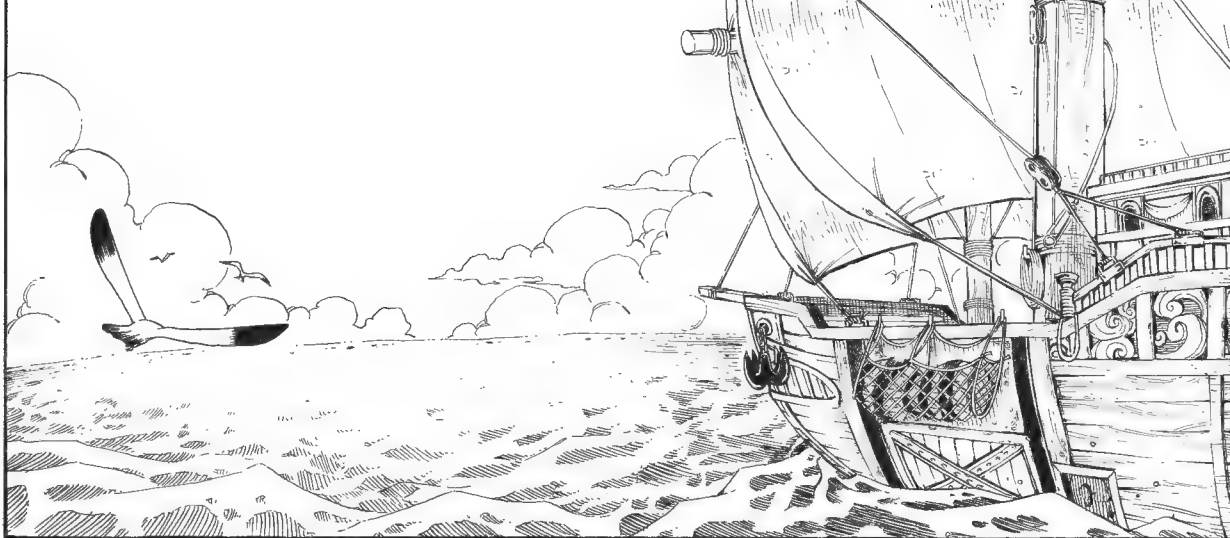


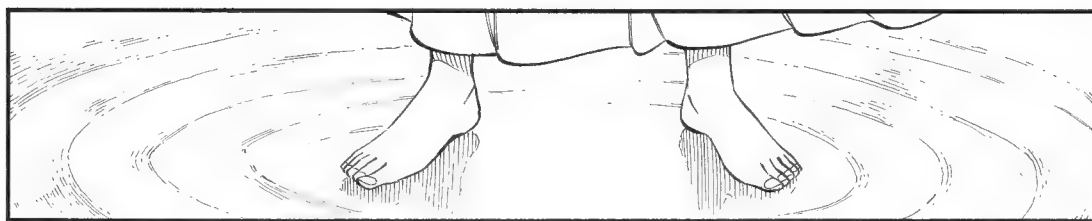
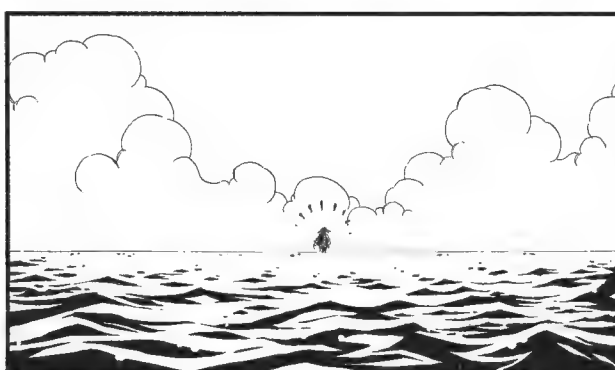
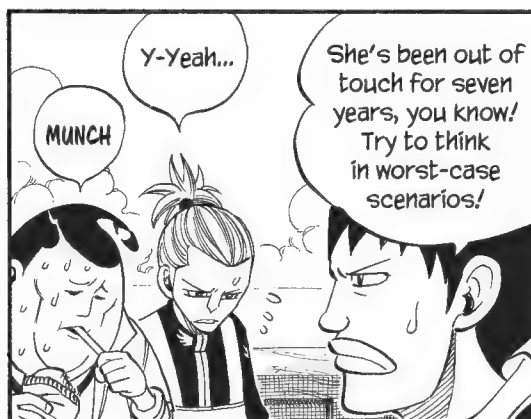
FAIRY TAIL

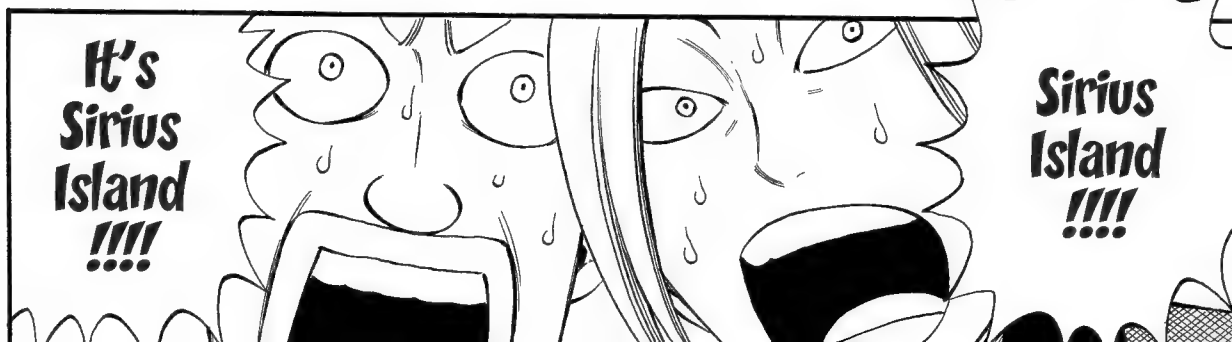
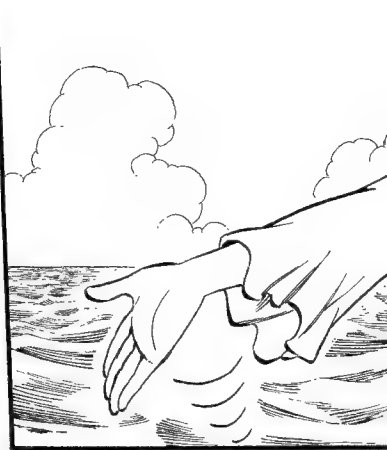
フェアリーテイル

Chapter 255: Fairy Sphere





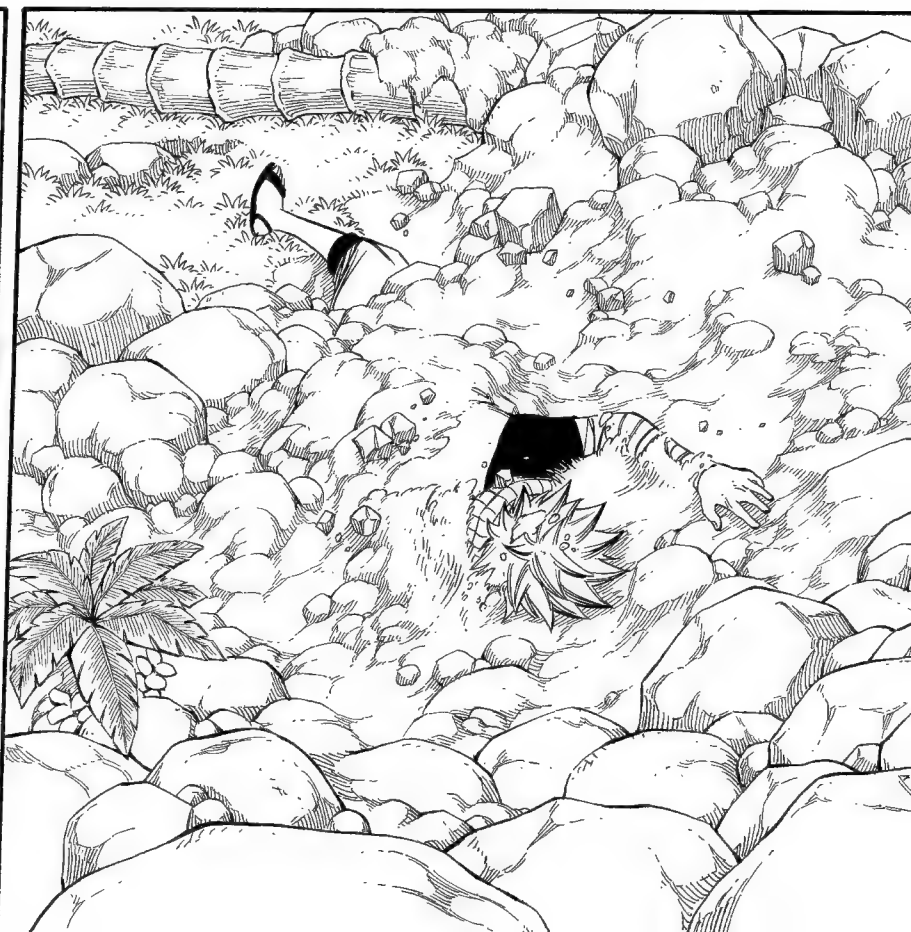
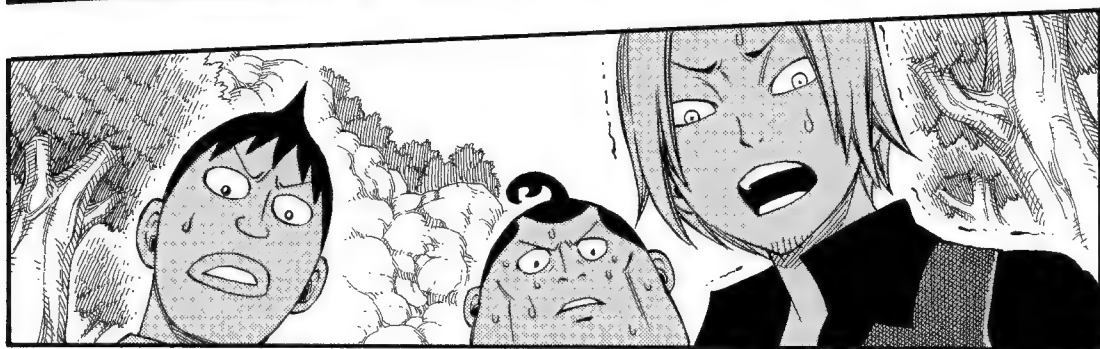




It's
Sirius
Island
!!!!

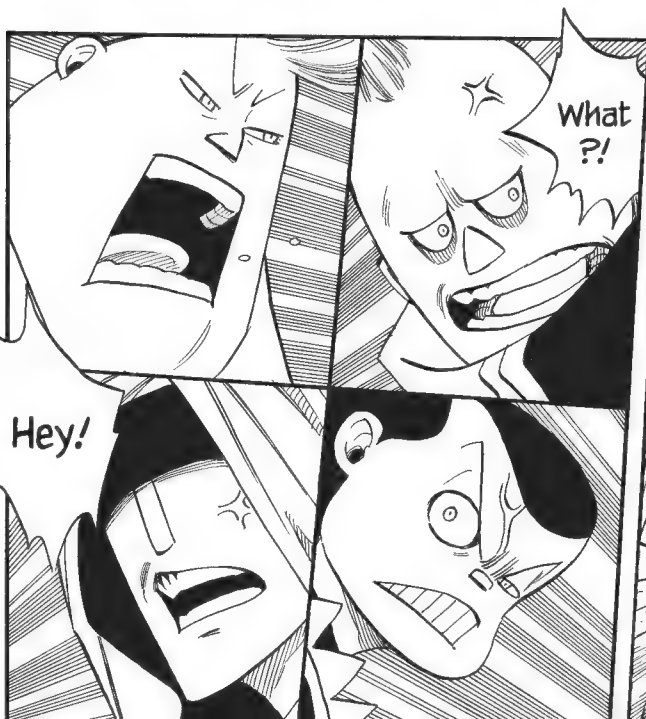
Sirius
Island
!!!!

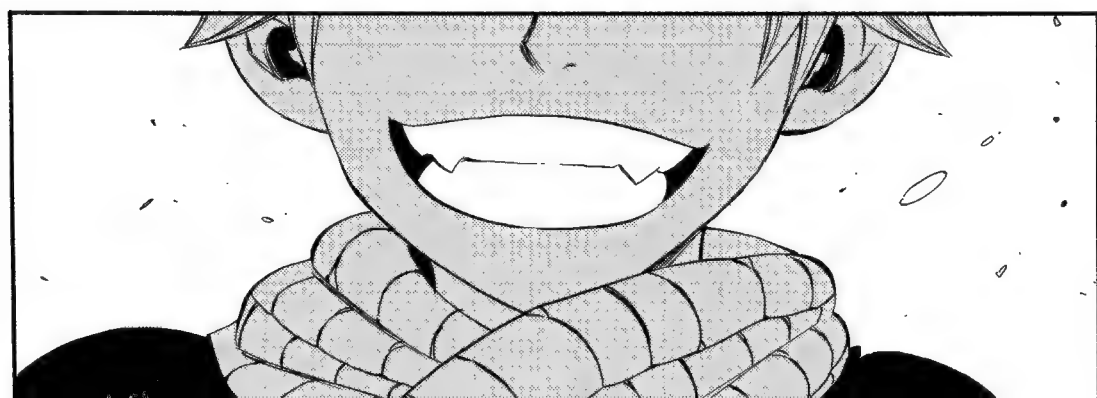














Wow! ♡
It's wonderful!

Okay,
where's the
liquor?!

We're
home!

Yo.

Humph!

We have
returned.

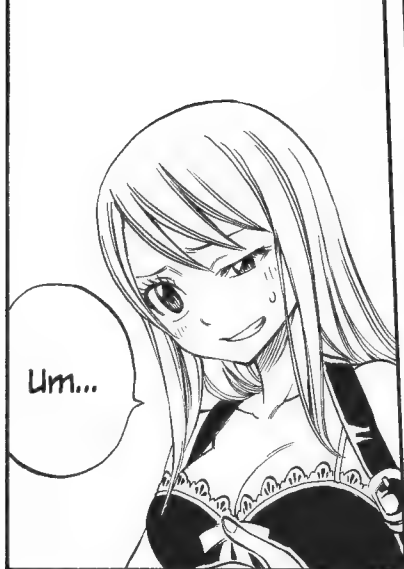
How'd the
guild get so
little?

We've
come
back!

Everybody!

BAAAAA





Um...



What happened here?!

You guys haven't changed in seven years!!

You're so young!!!



I-I-I-It's you...



Natsu!!!

Wake up, you jerk!!!

Natsu, wake up!!

Come on!!



NGAH!!

Gaaah!!!

Natsu!!!!

Waaah!!!



Well *you* haven't changed a bit!!

Wait a minute! Don't you guys look *old* now?!!

And wait! Droy... you're fat!



What's going on...?!

What're *you* guys doing here...?



AAAWWW!!!
SHUT UP!!!!

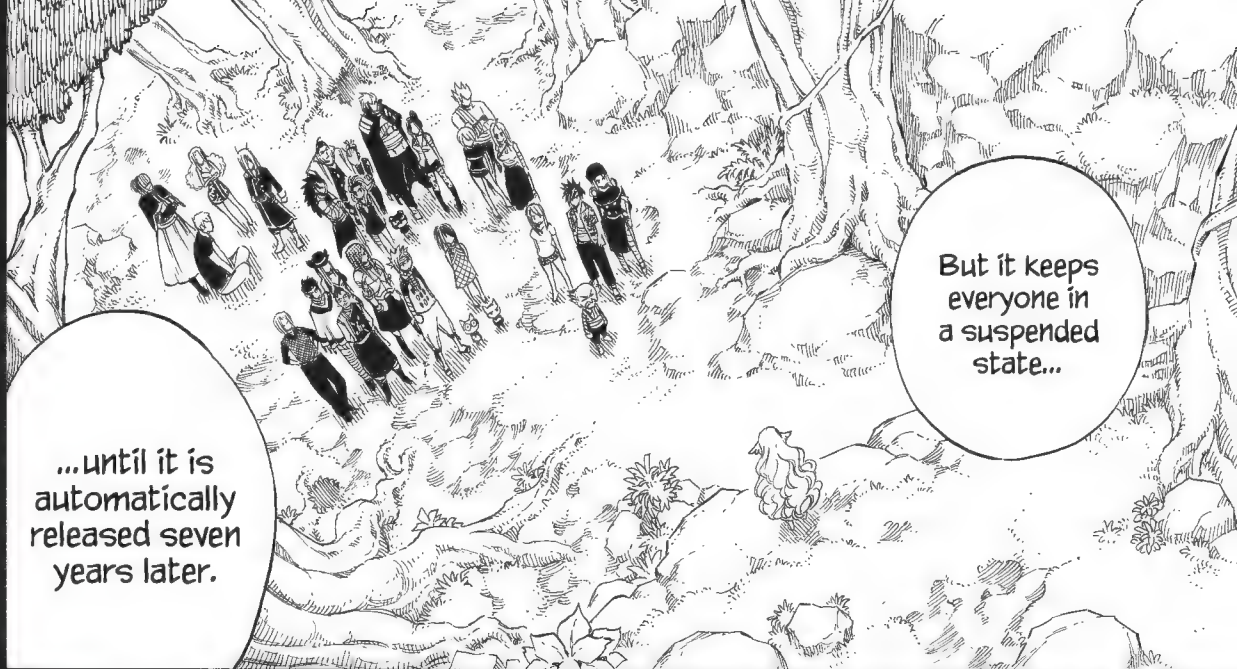




**My name
is Mavis.**

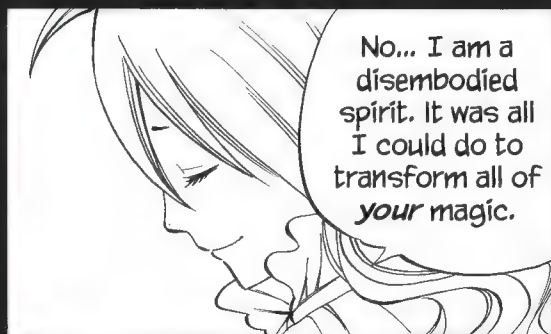
**Fairy Tail's
first master,
Mavis
Vermillion.**





...until it is automatically released seven years later.

But it keeps everyone in a suspended state...



No... I am a disembodied spirit. It was all I could do to transform all of *your* magic.

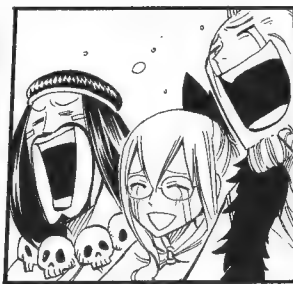
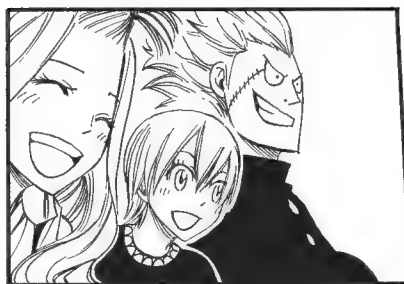


So then... the first Master protected all of us...

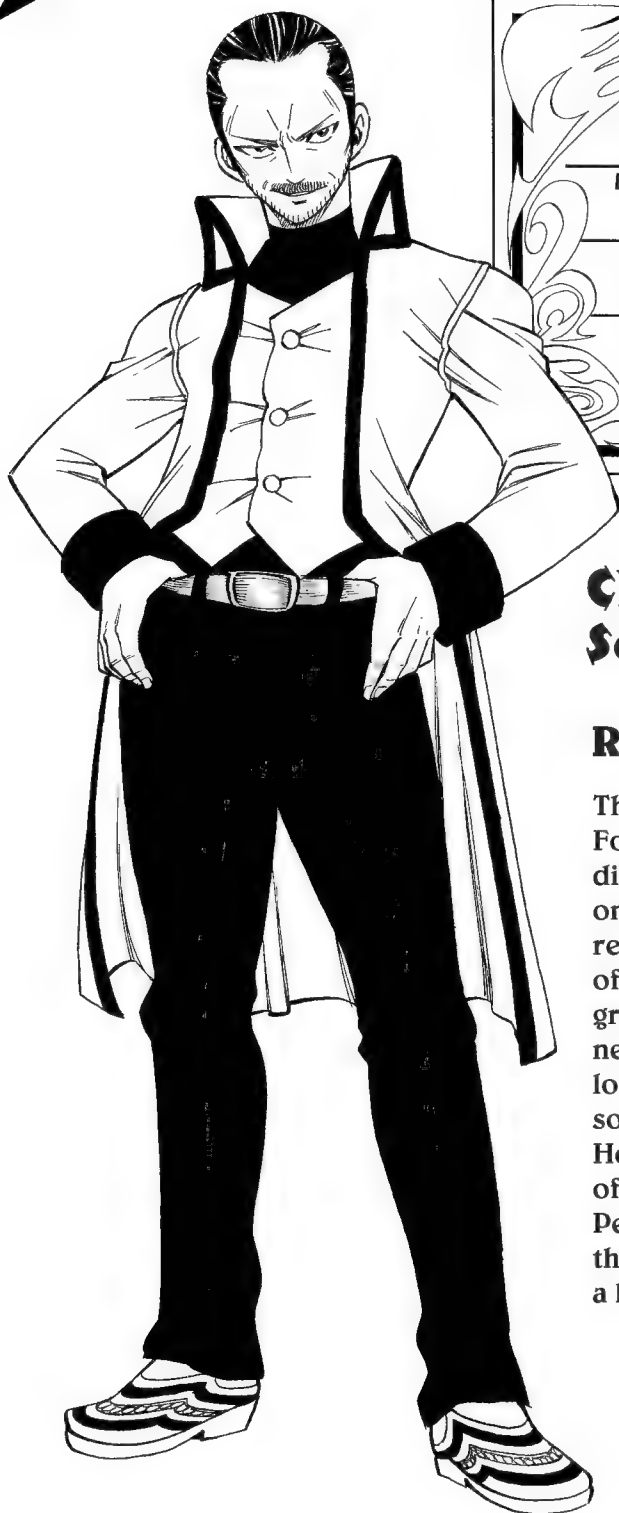



Your unwavering trust and strong bonds were what called forth this miracle.





FAIRY TAIL

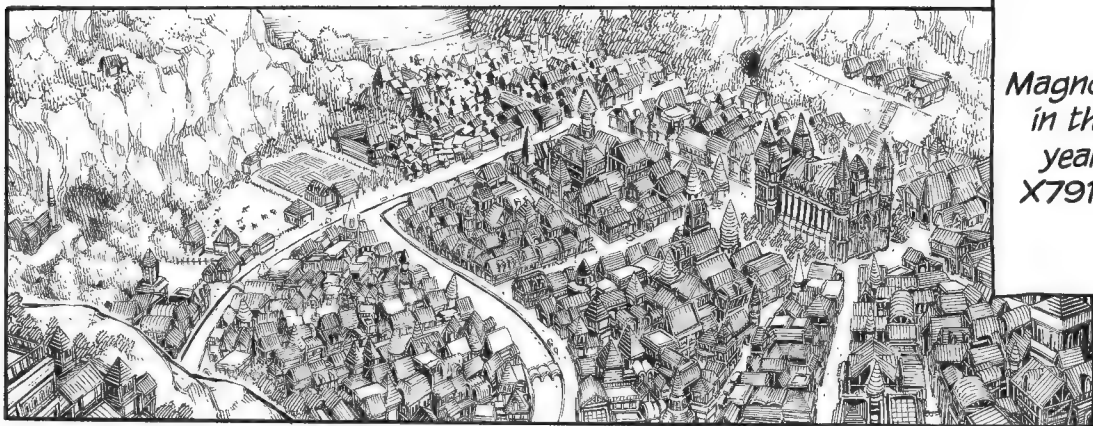


FAIRY TAIL	
Name: Macao Conbolt	Age: 43
Magic: Purple Flare	
Likes: Romeo	Dislikes: Loans
	

Chapter 256: Seven Empty Years

Remarks

The fourth master of Fairy Tail. For the first year after the disappearance of Sirius Island, he was only "acting master," but the Council reluctantly made him the fourth master of the guild. Ever since, he's been gravely worried about how his son has never smiled since Sirius Island was lost, but when the island returned, his son's smile did as well. He would tell people that he was going off to a meeting, but instead go to Blue Pegasus because of all the beauties there. Since then, Master Bob has taken a liking to him.



*Magnolia
in the
year
X791...*



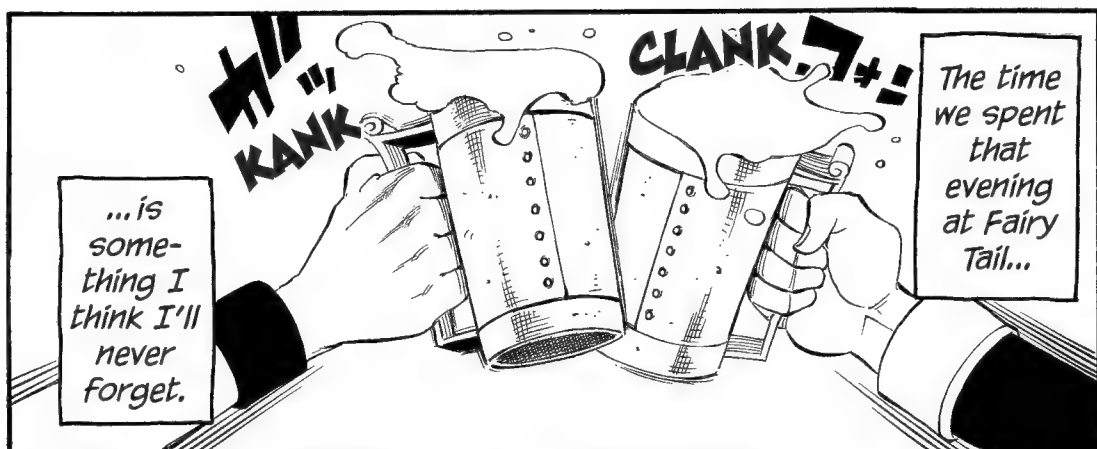
*...seven whole
years had
passed on
Earth-land.*

*By the time
we returned
from Sirius
Island...*

*...but I never
thought for a
moment that
I'd have the
same kind of
experience!*



*Once... long
ago, I think
I read a
child's story
like that...*



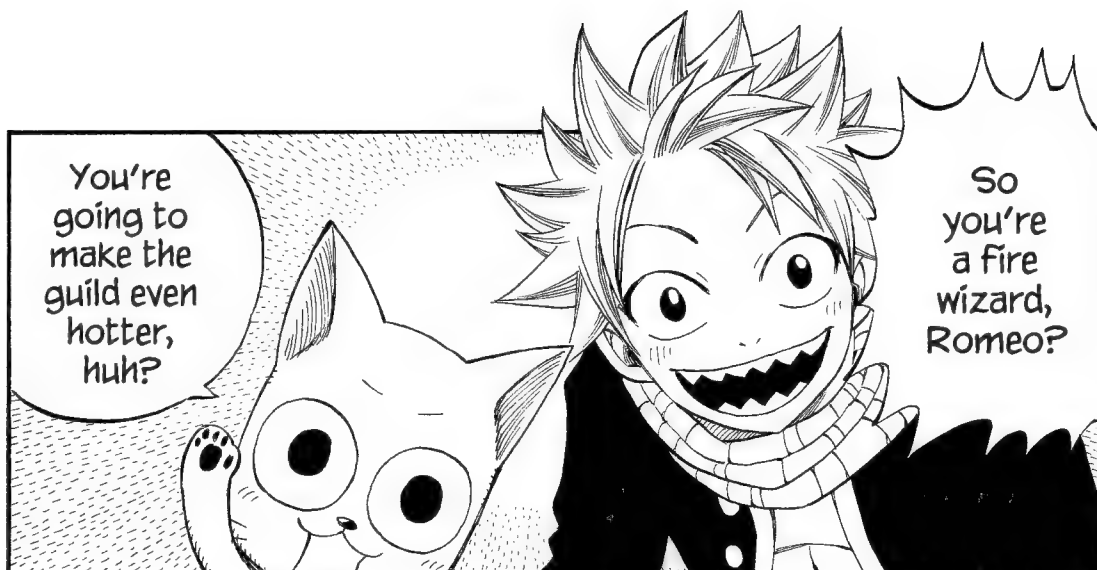
...is
some-
thing I
think I'll
never
forget.

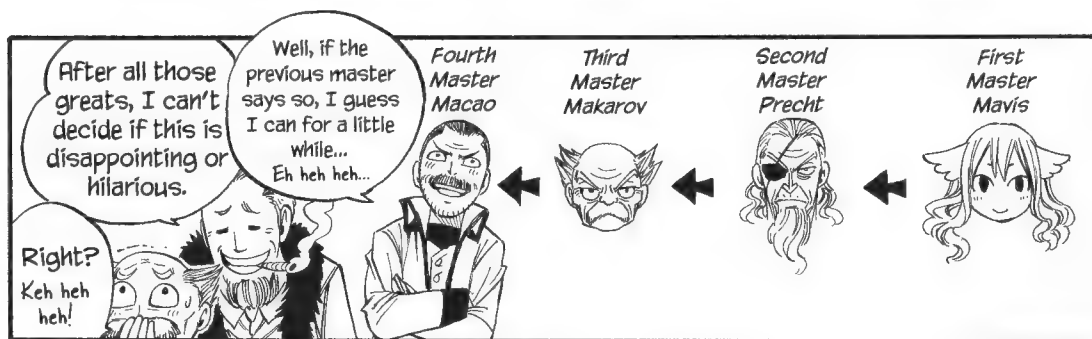
The time
we spent
that
evening
at Fairy
Tail...



We drank.
We sang.
We danced
...

We partied
to make
up for
the seven
years we'd
missed.









Pegasus may be ahead of us now, but we will prove superior in power.

There's nothing to worry about.



**LAMIA
SCALE**
LYON VASTIA

Too bad for you, Lucy-san.



**LAMIA
SCALE**
SHERRY BLENDY

Of course, over the past seven years, we've risen to become Fiore's No. 2 guild.

That was your reason?



No... It isn't Pegasus...

Don't get so worked up.

We'd never allow that!!!!



**LAMIA
SCALE**
YŪKA



**LAMIA
SCALE**
TOBY

...Wait, does that mean that Pegasus is No. 1?

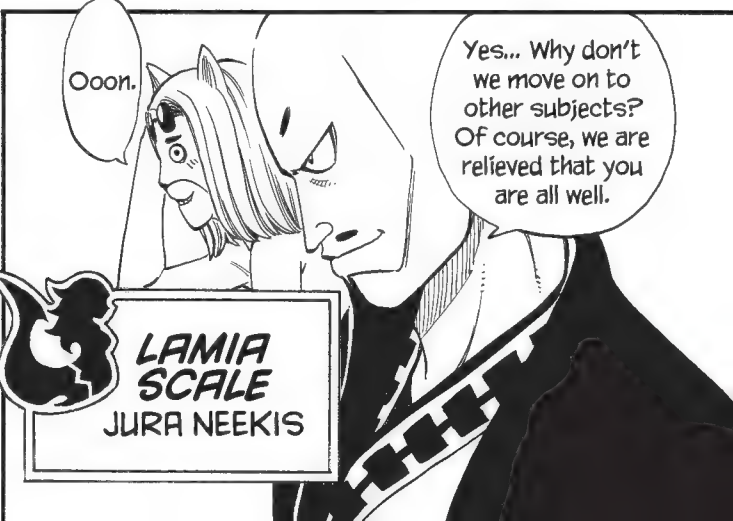


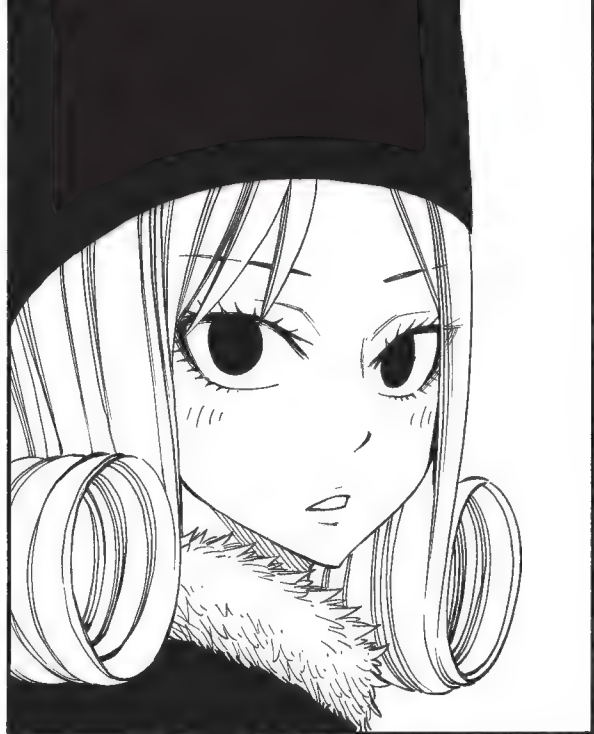
Ooon.



**LAMIA
SCALE**
JURA NEEKIS

Yes... Why don't we move on to other subjects? Of course, we are relieved that you are all well.







Yeah, even gullible people wouldn't fall for that lie.

Can't you guys tell a joke that's easier for us to believe?

And put me down!!!

And do something about that warped face of yours!

How can I stop when I'm so happy?!



CHATTER
CHATTER

Lexus...
Don't be a pain!

AH
HA
HA
HA

The noise didn't let up.



To us, it felt like we'd been gone only a week...

Team Shadow Gear is here to make a comeback, right?!

WAAAAH

I thought I'd never see you again, Levy!

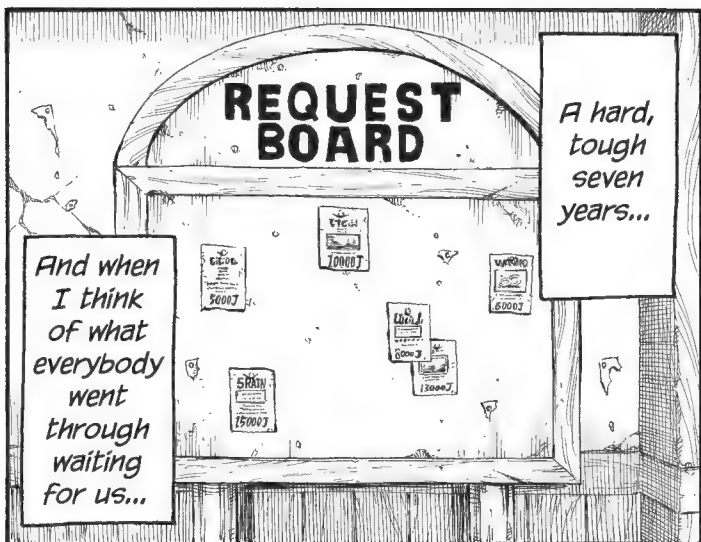


...it seemed like an extra long seven years.

...but to everyone we left behind...

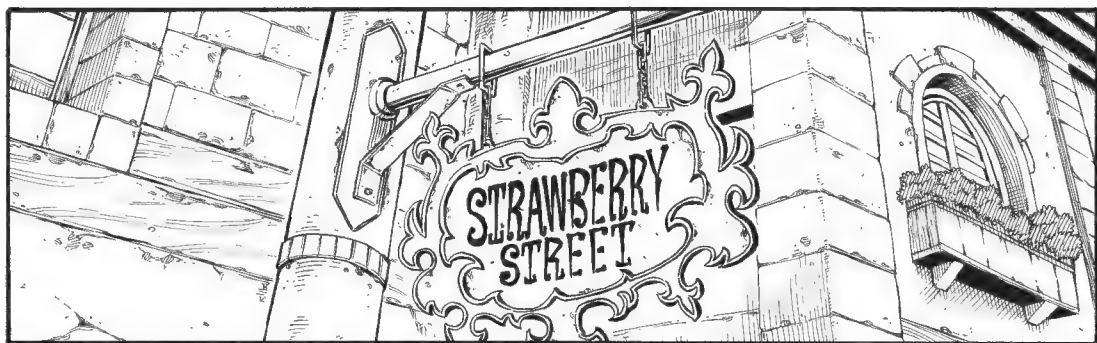


...it
makes
my
heart
ache.



A hard,
tough
seven
years...

And when
I think
of what
everybody
went
through
waiting
for us...



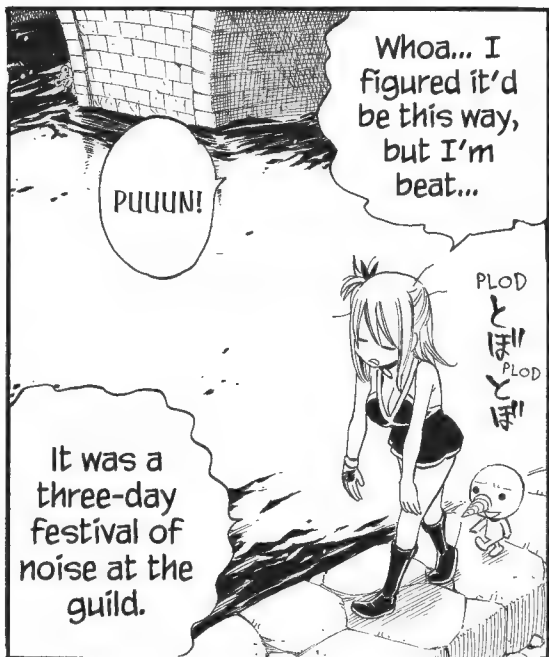
PUUUN!

It seems like
forever since
I saw the
inside of my
place, huh?

XPLOD とほ
とほ

It's Lucy-
chan!

Hey!
Isn't that
...



Whoa... I
figured it'd
be this way,
but I'm
beat...

PUUUN!

PLOD
とほ
とほ

It was a
three-day
festival of
noise at the
guild.

ZHUUUN

M-Ms.
Land-
lady?

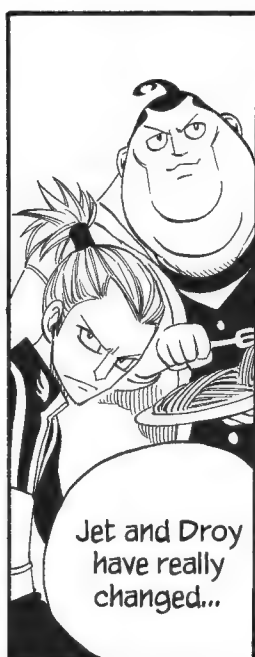
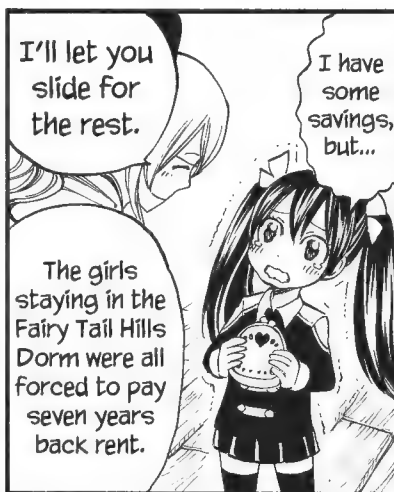


Seven
years! That's
5,880,000J!!!
If you don't pay
up, you're never
getting into
that room
!!!!



I heard that
you were back.
It's good to
see you're all
right.

But we do
have a *rent*
situation!

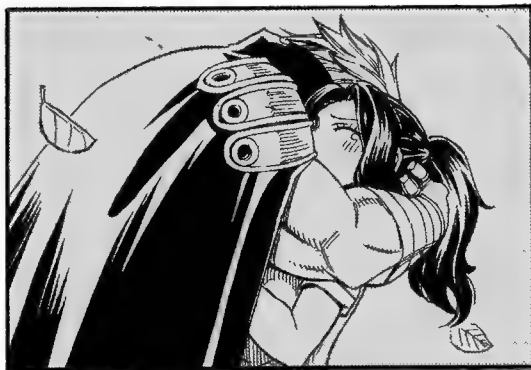
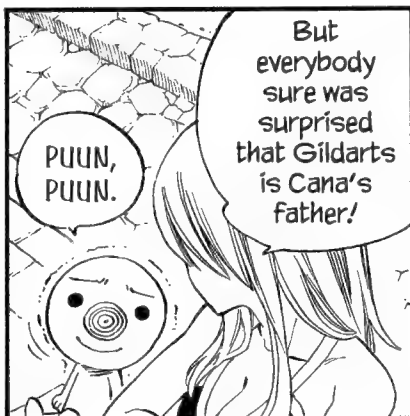




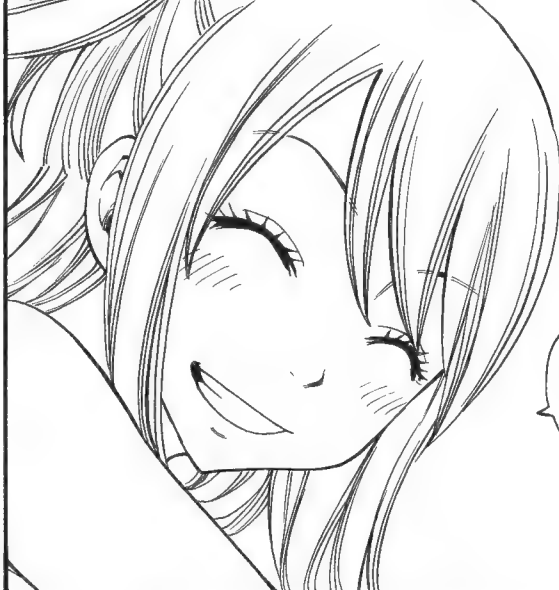
So he hasn't heard from me in seven whole years.



Father...

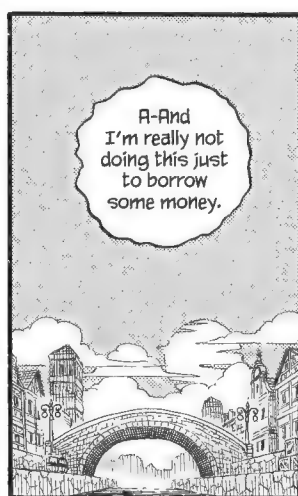
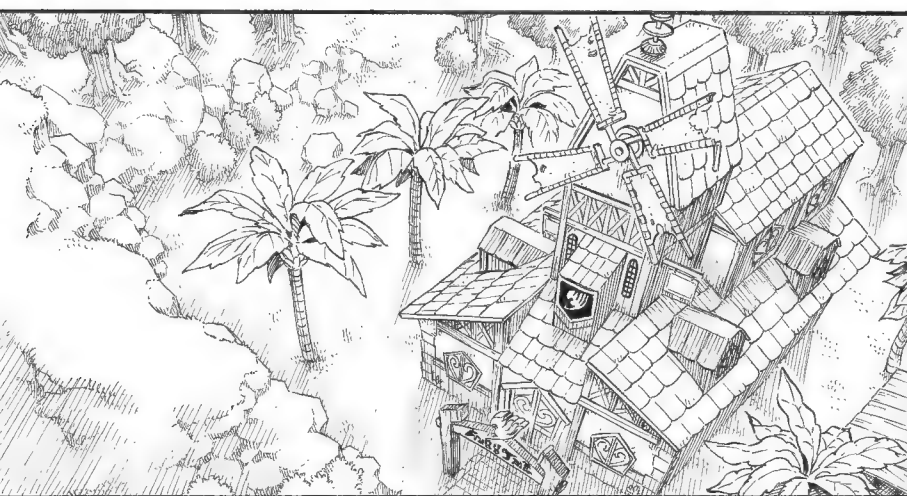


Maybe I'll go and visit Father.



Imagine that!
I'm thinking
that I *want* to
visit Father.

That's a
first, for
me.



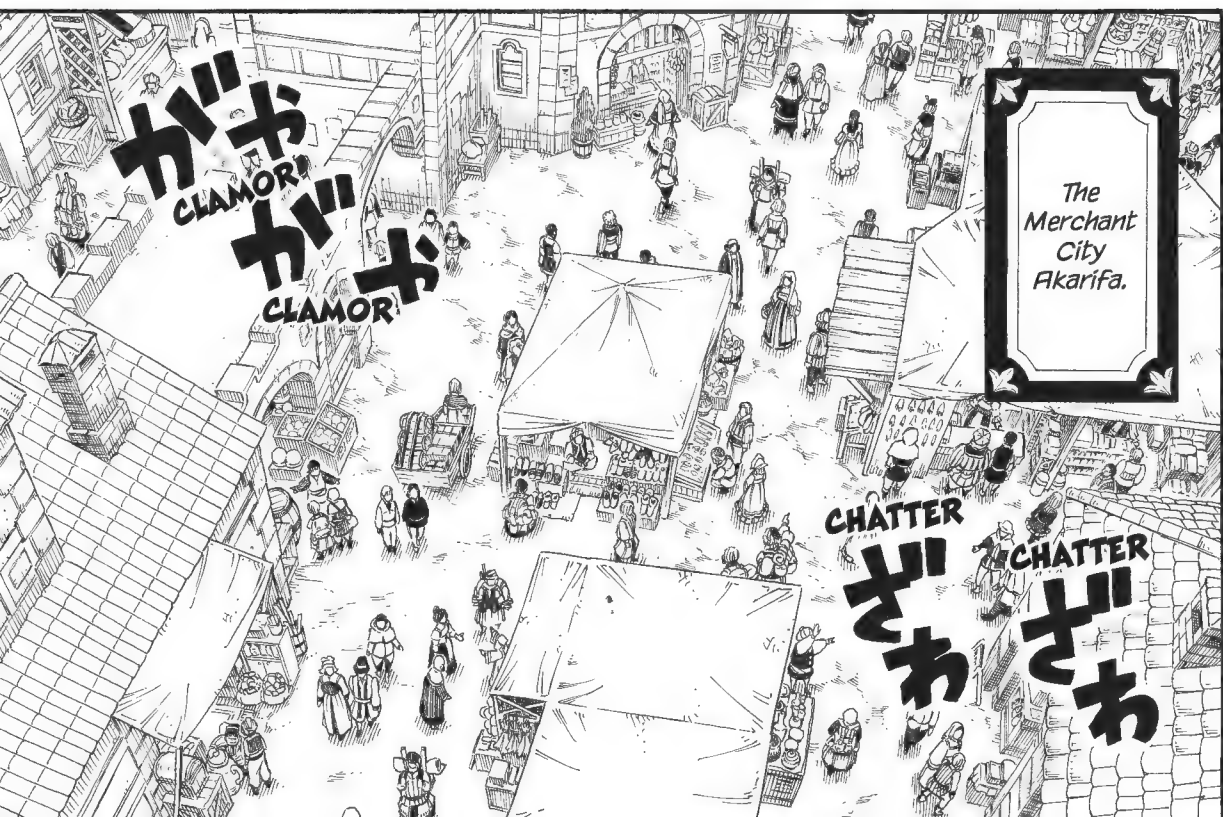
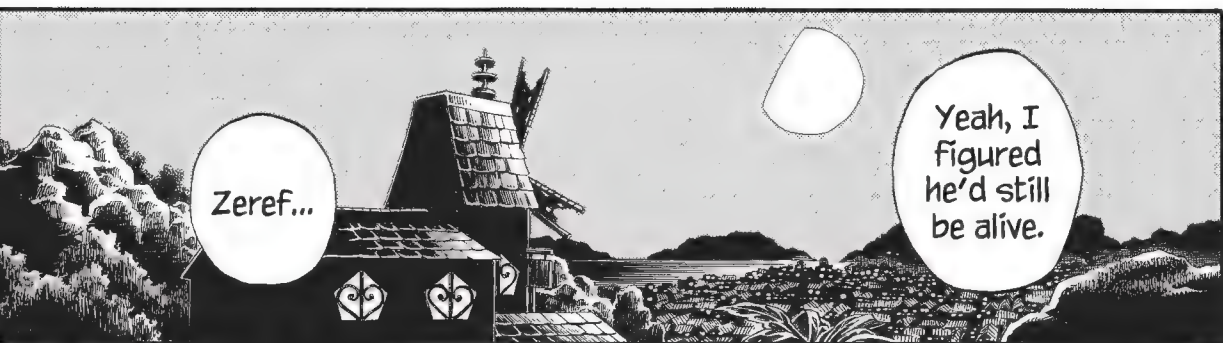
A-And
I'm really not
doing this just
to borrow
some money.

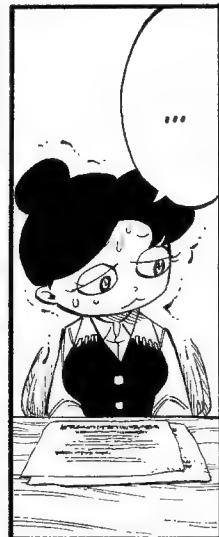
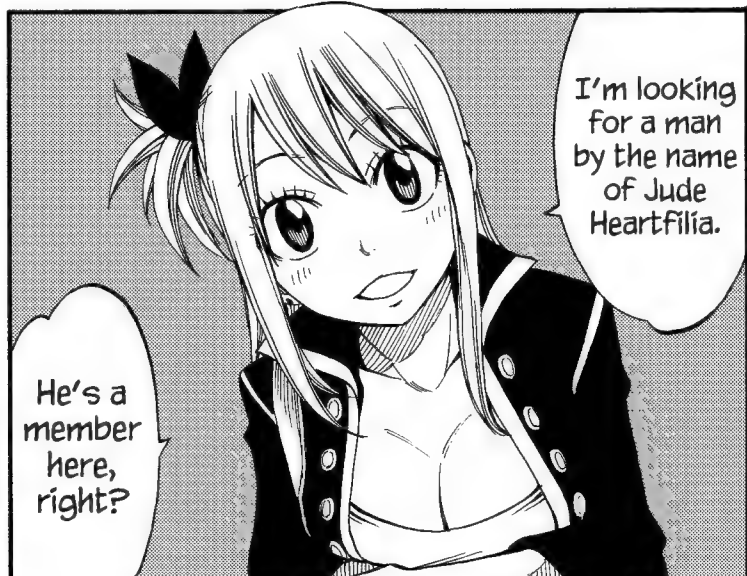


...it
was like
our lives
had been
emptied
out.

But with
seven
years
lost...



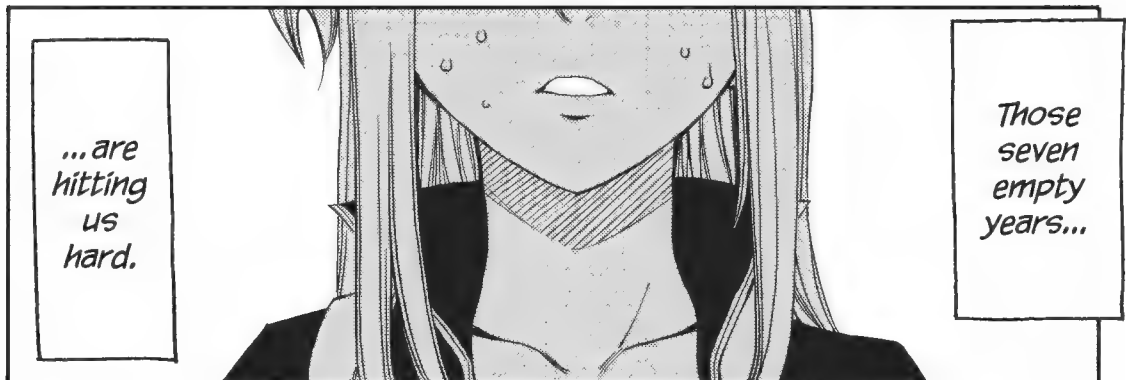






I truly am
sorry.

A month
ago, Jude-
san passed
away.



*...are
hitting
us
hard.*

*Those
seven
empty
years...*



FAIRY TAIL	
Name:	Romeo Conbolt
Magic:	Rainbow Fire
Likes:	The Guild
Dislikes:	Two

Chapter 25

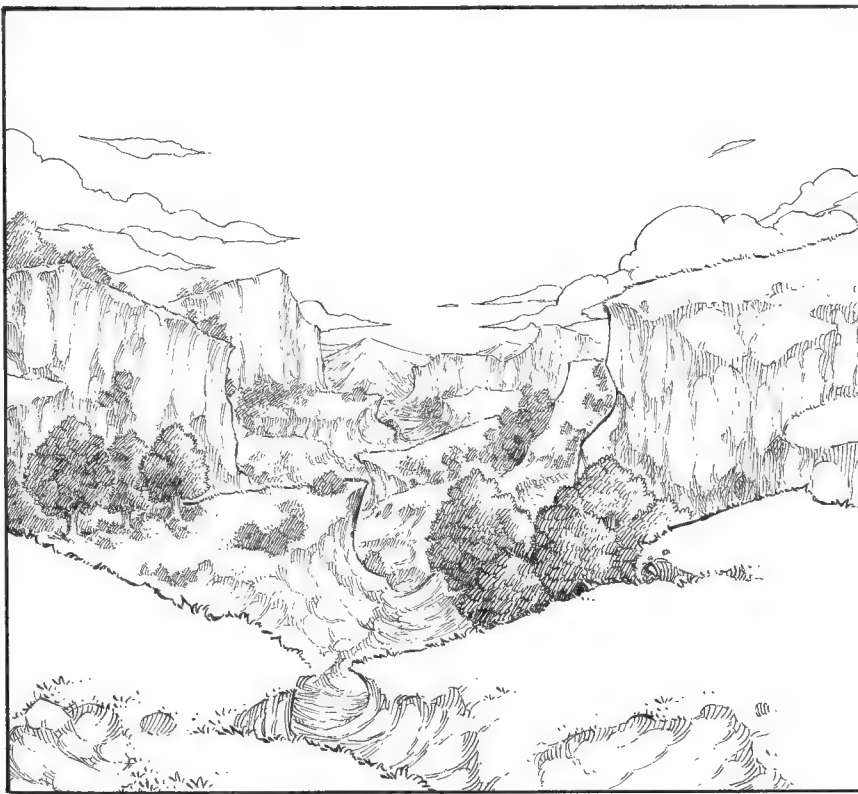
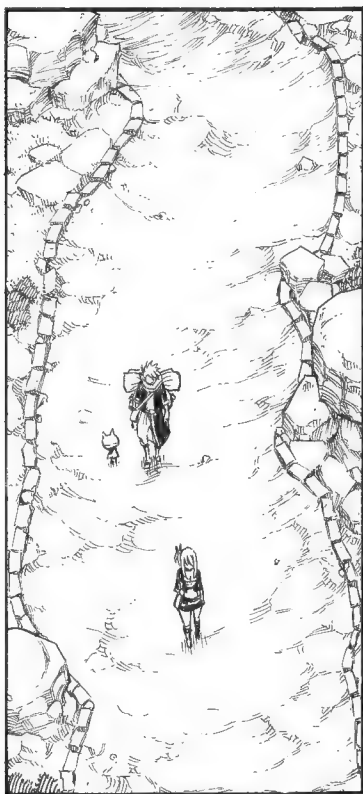
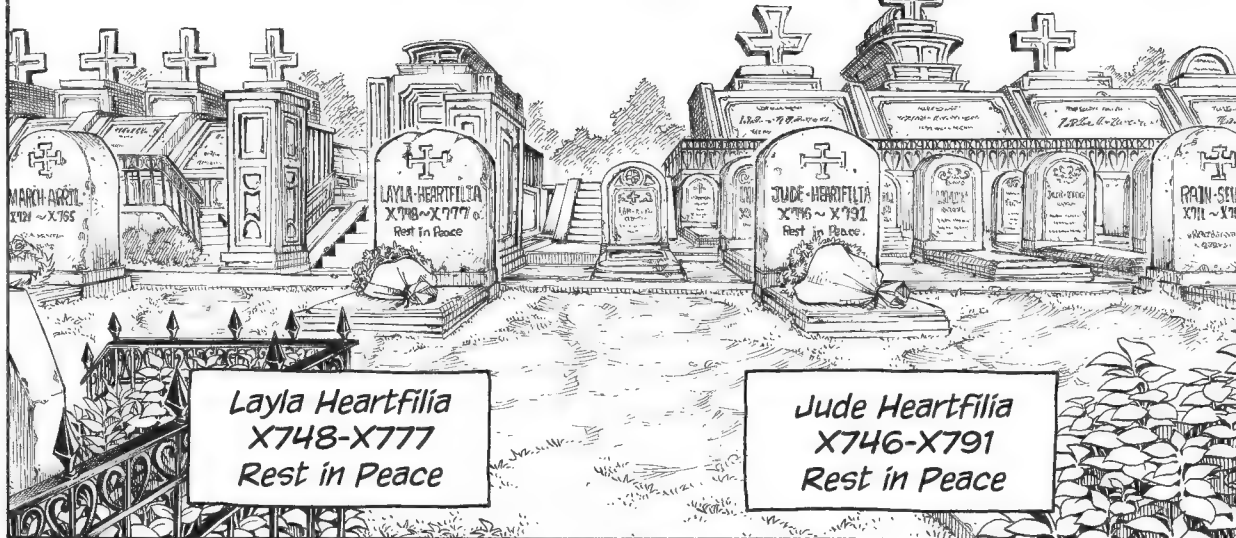
Father's Secret

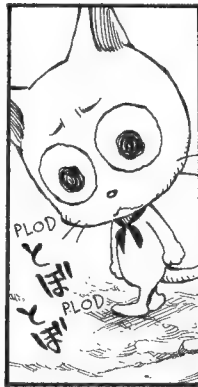
Remarks

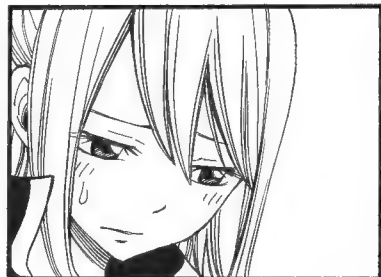
Son of Macao, the fourth member of Fairy Tail.

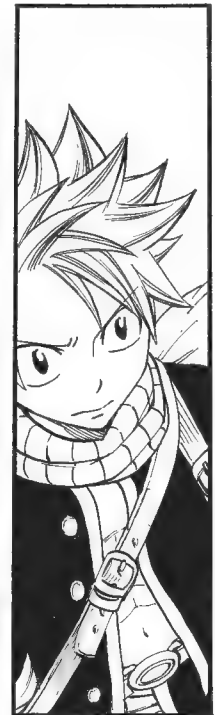
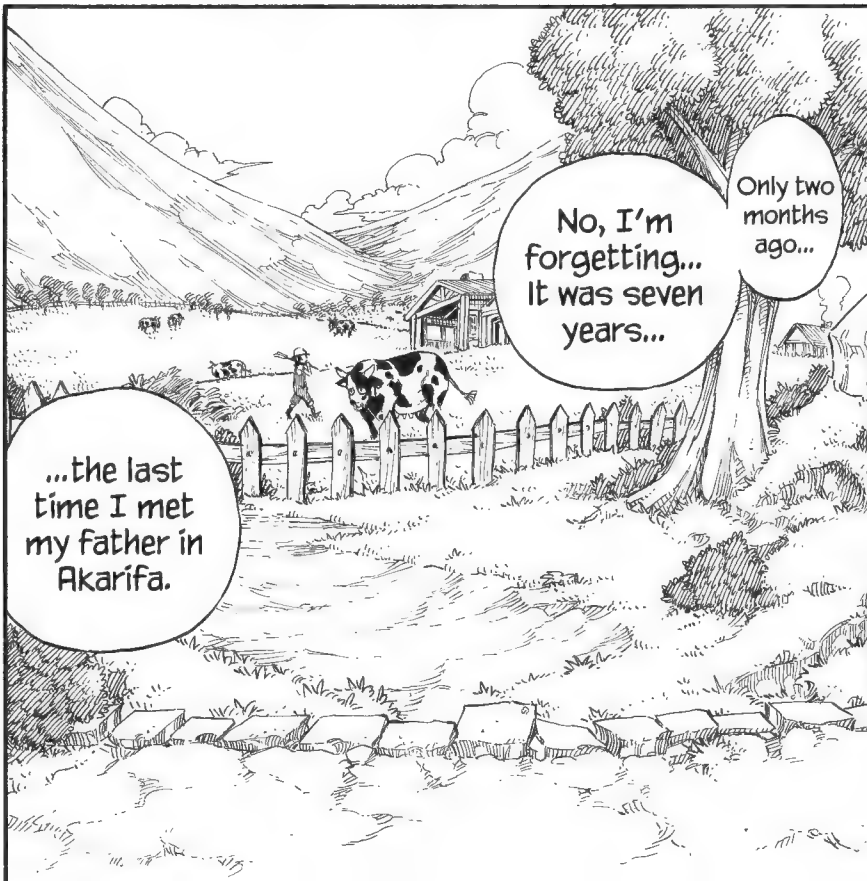
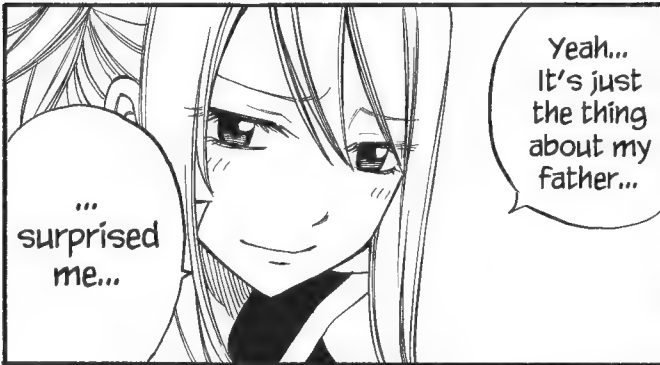
He's always admired his older brother, "big brother," and is very close to him. Ever since a point in the past prior, it's been his dream to join Fairy Tail. Soon after joining, he started taking lessons in Totopurush's class. He is now there learning Fire, a magic that uses rainbow-colored flames that each have different properties.

After the disappearance of his father, he











But... then there was that thing that happened in Akarifa, and from then on, it seemed to me that our relationship was changing for the better.

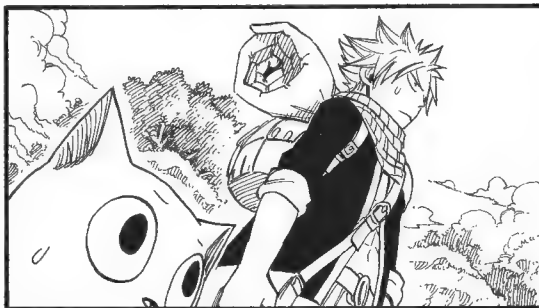


Ever... since I was little, I never really liked my father much.

And the Phantom incident made it worse.



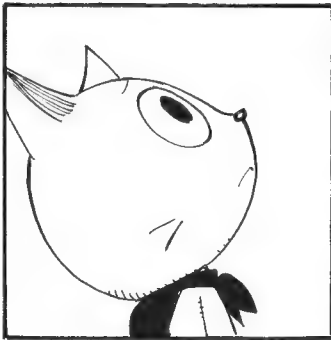
They said he died from overwork. That's so like him...

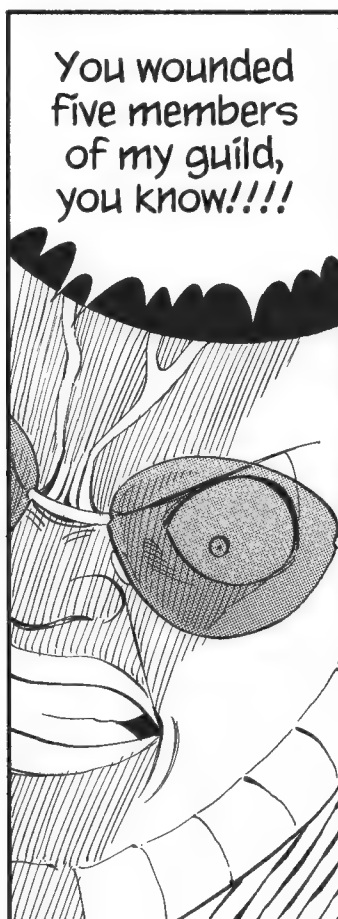


But the tears just won't come.

But why, I wonder?

I'm sad... I feel so alone...







...that's an insult to our entire guild, old man!!!!

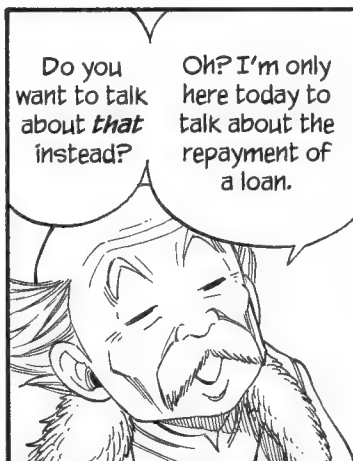
When we're attacked by our debtors, and we *still* ain't been paid back...



So, am I to take it that your guild's main belief is, "Get payback for what is owed?" Is that fair?



There ain't no *that* and *this*!



Do you want to talk about *that* instead?

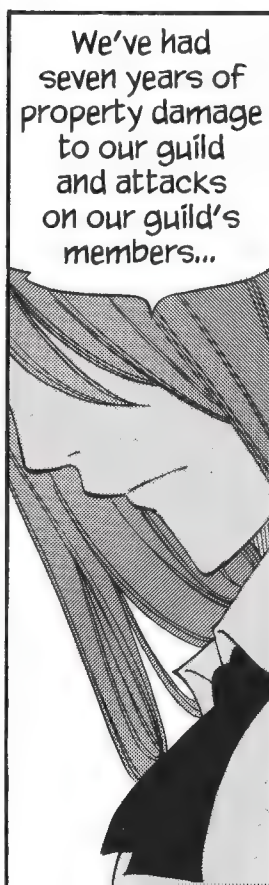
Oh? I'm only here today to talk about the repayment of a loan.



My children have, for seven whole years, suffered pain and tears, and you'll pay for that...

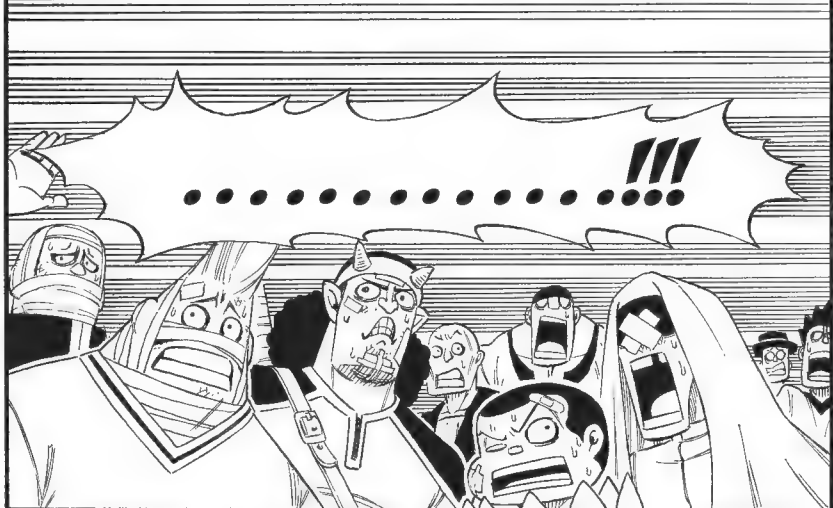


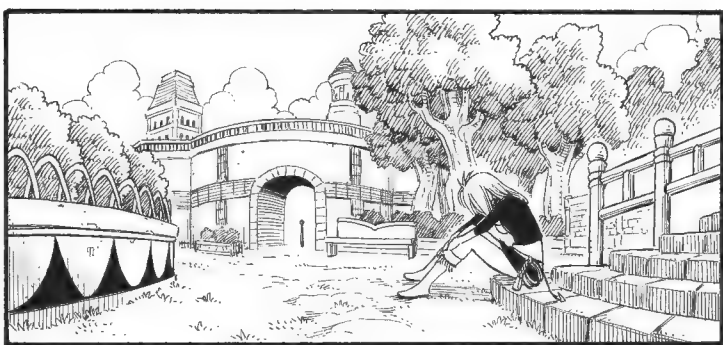
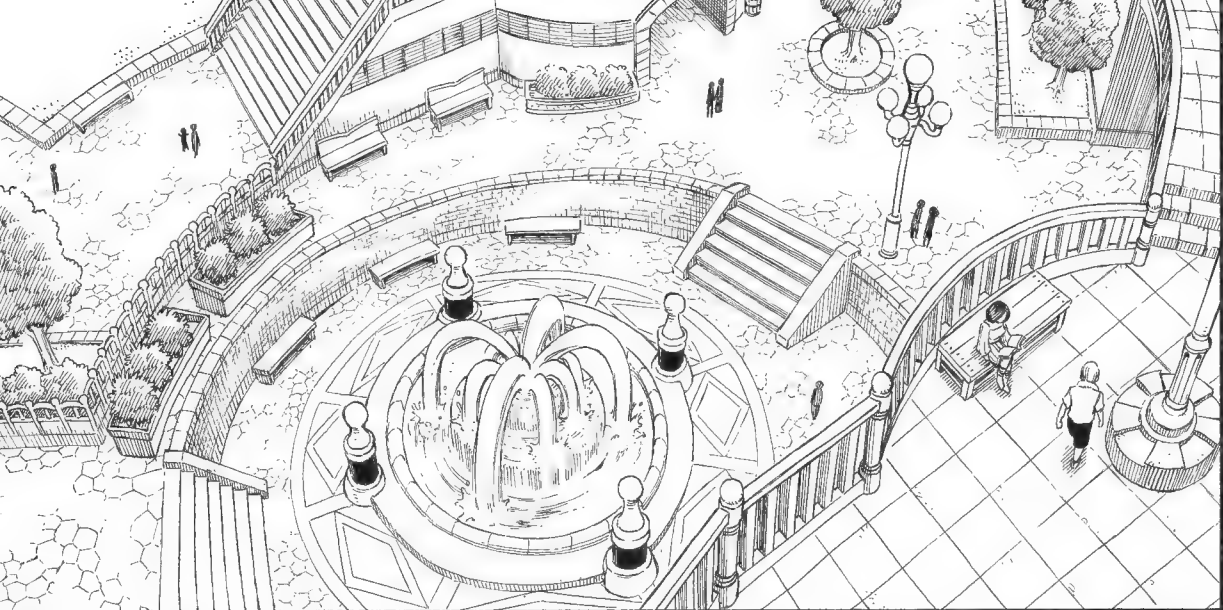
And therefore our guild should obtain payback for each and every claim during that period.

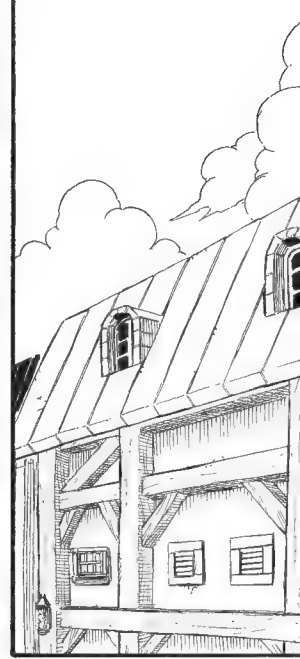


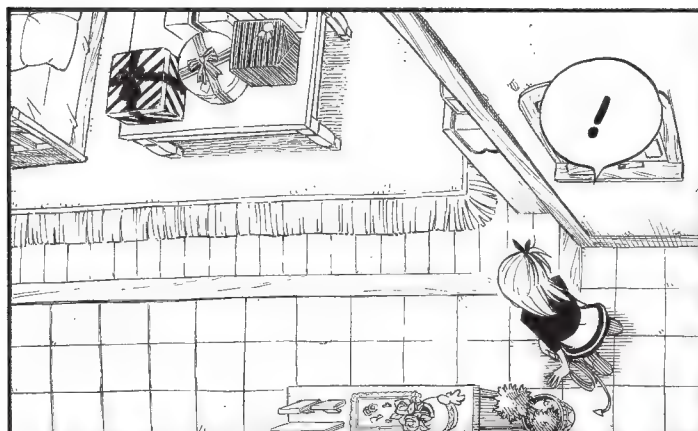
We've had seven years of property damage to our guild and attacks on our guild's members...







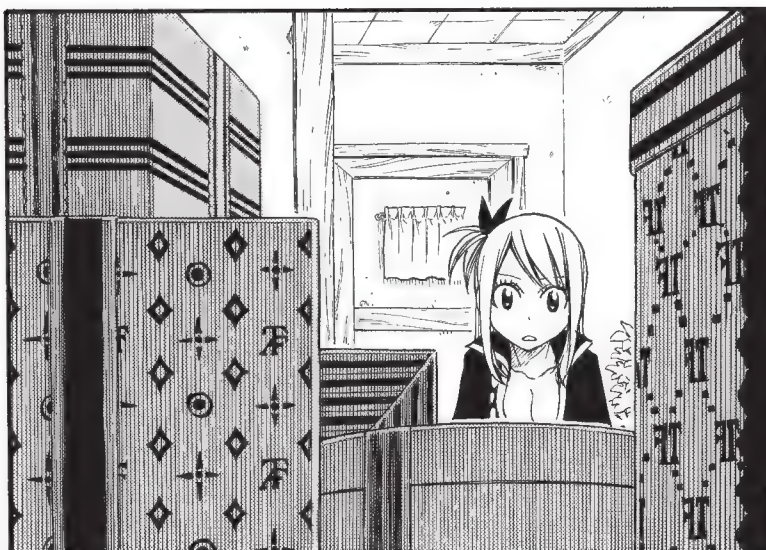




Take a look
at your
table.



They
arrived
every year
on exactly
the same
day.

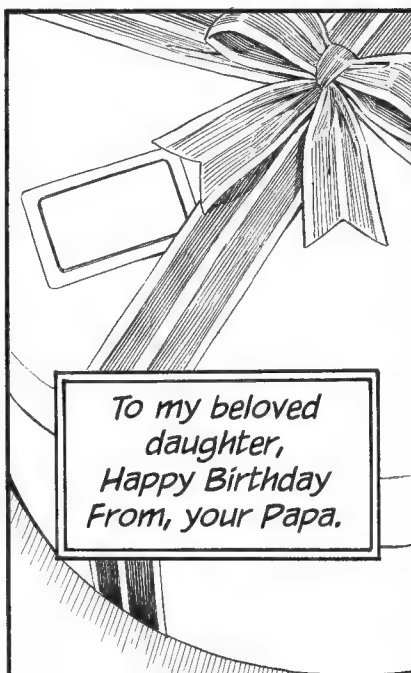


It's my
birthday.

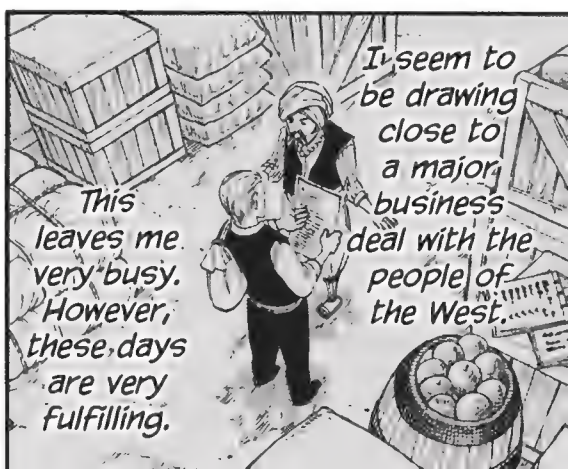
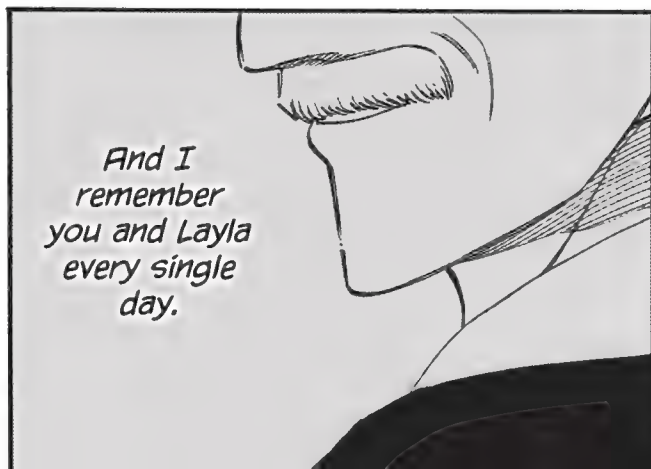
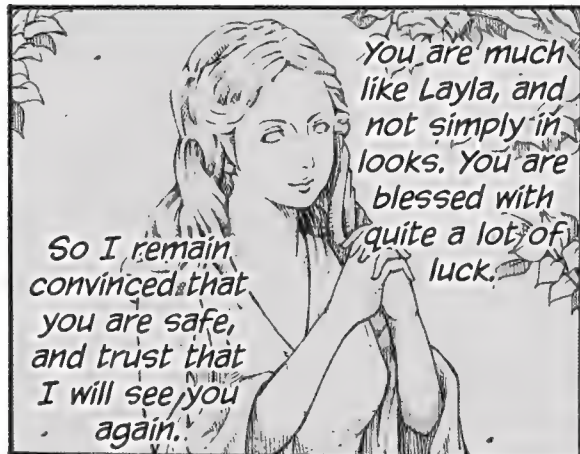
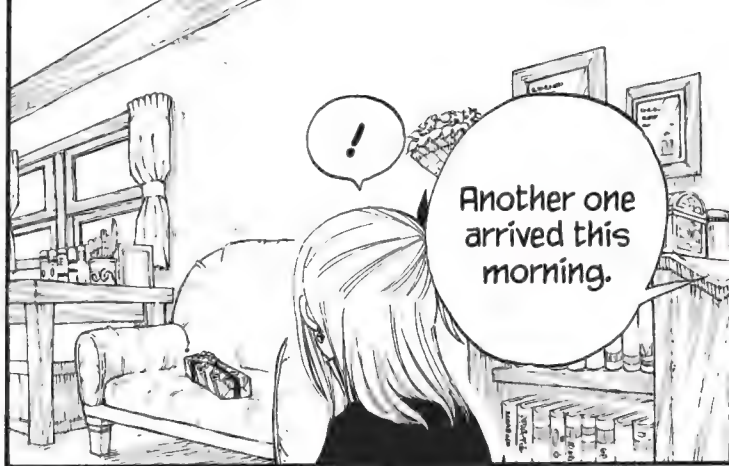
SNIFF

...my
birthday.

He
remem-
bered
...



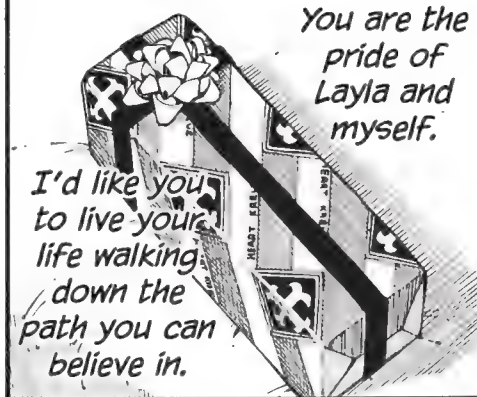
To my beloved
daughter,
Happy Birthday
From, your Papa.





Fath...
er...

*I want us
to meet
again very
soon.*

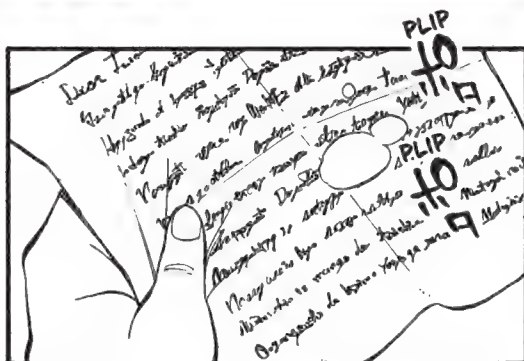
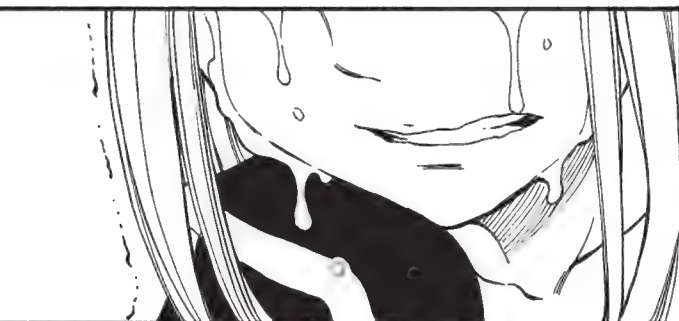


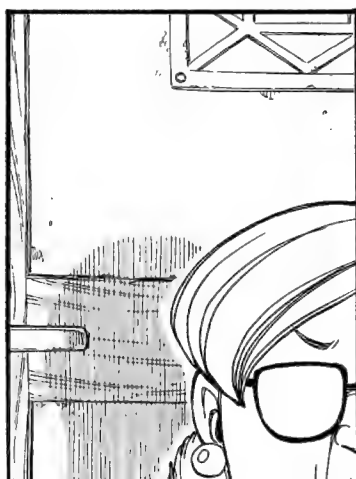
*You are the
pride of
Layla and
myself.*

*I'd like you
to live your
life walking
down the
path you can
believe in.*



*Lucy, I
want you to
know that I
will love you
forever.*









We're
going
out on a
job!!!!

We'll bring
you some
sweetballs
from
Shirotsume
!!



...was
way too
much,
but...



Seven
years
of lost
time...



...even so,
we've all
decided...

Hold
it!!!

I'm
coming,
too!!!!

...to take
this world
and keep
on living
in it.

TO BE CONTINUED

Afterword

あとがき

And finally the huge Sirius Island chapter comes to an end. It was long, huh? And there were lots of characters! (cries) The arc that follows on its heels is still just an idea, but it looks like it'll have **even more** characters featured in it that I'll have to draw! It's going to be rough! >_<

Now, the story has gone through a huge change, suddenly becoming a "seven years later" story. I'm sure there were a lot of you who were surprised, huh? When you're drawing a very long series, one way to add a fresh sense to the story is to have time advance within it. It's like a spice. It happens in so many stories that I thought I'd try to do it too, but with a slight difference. It's a pretty over-the-top plot twist to have time pass for everyone but twenty or so of the main characters. You don't see **that** in a whole lot of other stories now, do you? But it has its drawbacks, too. As time passes, the main characters usually get stronger and stronger (leveling up), which seems to be a standard for this genre, but in this case, that doesn't happen. (laughs) Everyone around them has gotten stronger, but they've stayed exactly the same. What's with that?!

And so, even though a lot of time has passed, this isn't really the beginning of Part 2 or anything. It's just going to carry on as the same Fairy Tail.

Now, the Japanese release for the next volume, Vol. 31, is going to have a special edition with an anime DVD included again, but in this one... wait for it... I drew the anime storyboards personally!! I draw the manga roughs all the time, but this was totally different, so it turned out harder than I imagined! Up until this last time, they were all stories based on my manga short stories, but this time, it was a wholly original story. There are all sorts of tricks and twists, so I don't want to give anything away via plot summary, but this is a story that answers a lot of questions, like, "What are those scars on Natsu's neck?" that I got in the early days of the series. Thankfully, the studio put in a lot of energy to take my terrible storyboards and turn them into a really high-quality anime! I think you'll find the story to be very fun! Look forward to it!

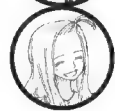
EMERGENCY REQUEST!

EXPLAIN THE MYSTERIES OF FAIRY TAIL!



At the broken-down guild...

: Seven years have gone by.



: Seven whole years, huh?

Lucy: Honestly!! What is this?! What a stupid plot twist!! I'm sure we're going to get a ton of mail with all the mistakes that the readers have caught!

Mira: No, a lot of them are here already.

Lucy: Aw, geez! >_<

Mira: Now, the first question.

What happened to the scene of Natsu crying that Carla foresaw in Volume 24?



Lucy: We got this question a lot!

Mira: It's because the author is coming up with images without figuring out where to put them...



: Y-You're not supposed to say that...

Mira: The plan for this scene was to put it in when Natsu fights Gildarts. Toward the end, Natsu admits that he's been defeated and breaks down. That was where it was supposed to go.



Lucy: Looking at the two of them together, they're completely different!

Mira: By the way, Cana's scene is from Vol. 28, page 42, and the scene with the hand was from Vol. 27, page 61.

Lucy: That was *my* hand, huh? But, come on!! Natsu's scene was just too awful! I can see why none of the readers understood it!



: Now, now... Remember that this was just a "premonition." The future doesn't always turn out exactly that way. We can leave it at that, right?

Continued on the right-hand page.

Continued from the left-hand page.



: That was an impressive way of running away from the problem.

Mira: Now, the next question is partly about me.

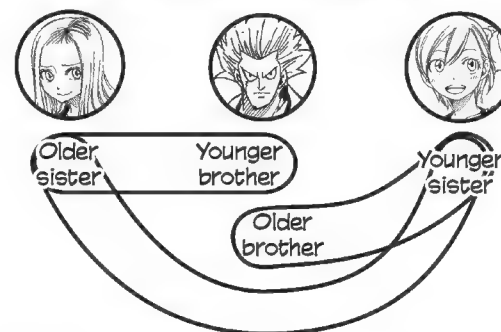
Mira-chan, Elfman, and Lisanna are a sister-brother-sister combination, but when you write the kanji for kyôdai ("siblings"), how do you write it to capture the relationships?



In an age where a lot of authors are writing their manga with the foreign market in mind, this question is about as "domestic market" as you can get!

Mira: Let's explain this especially for the sake of those foreign editions!

Lucy: Okay, what this question is about is when the word for "siblings" is written in Japanese kanji, they use the term "kyôdai" which is made up of words for "older brother" and "younger brother." There's also shimai, which is "older sister" "younger sister." But in Mira-san's case...



Th-That does complicate things, huh?

Mira: If we write it, shitei ("older sister" and "younger brother") then we leave out Lisanna, and if it's keimai ("older brother" and "younger sister") then I get left out.

Lucy: And if you just do shimai like we described above, then Elfman is left out. Hmm, that's a tough one...

Mira: I've done a bit of research on this, and it seems that when you have a mixed group like ours, you use all four kanji in the word, keitei-shimai.



: That seems kind of long and unwieldy, huh?



: We could also just not use kanji at all, using the hiragana, kyôdai. Maybe that's best.

Lucy: Finally, we have one more question that concerns Mira-san.

Could you tell me Mirajane's and Elfman's family name?

Mira: Huh? Haven't we ever mentioned it?

Lucy: Seems strange, but I don't think it's ever been officially revealed.

Mira: Our family name is "Strauss."



: Mirajane Strauss, Elfman Strauss, Lisanna Strauss... Really...? I never knew.



: Tswee!! Tswee!!



: And this little one shares the same family name too! Alexandria Strauss!



: So you've taken that weird-voiced dog... and officially made it your pet...

Send to Hiro Mashima, Kodansha Comics
451 Park Ave. South, 7th Floor New York, NY 10016

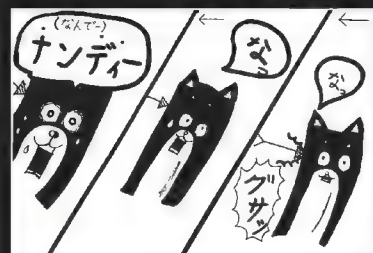
The Fairy Tail Guild is looking for illustrations! Please send in your art on a postcard or at postcard size, and do it in black pen, okay? Those chosen to be published will get a signed mini poster! ♪ Make sure you write your real name and address on the back of your illustration!

FAIRY TAIL GUILD d'ART

By sending in letters or postcards you give us permission to give your name, address, postal code and any other information you include to the author as is. Please keep that in mind.

REJECTION CORNER

Osaka, Wataru Tsuyuguchi



Gradually, gradually, the arrow hits. What is with how surreal this is?!

Don't know what everyone is saying, but they're all so cute!



Shiga Prefecture, Yuka Takano

Niigata Prefecture, Miyu Maruyama



▲ Wow!! This is so moe! I don't know what to do! It's too cute!

Fukuoka Prefecture, Hiroyokko



▲ It would have been nice if they could all have had a fun childhood like that.

Fukushima Prefecture, Masami Kobayashi



▲ This drawing is really cute! Wonderful!♡

Nagasaki Prefecture, YOU



▲ Woow!! This drawing's really good!! Apparently Gray is really popular in America, too!!

Kyoto, Marina Murakami



▲ As I thought, this team-up is the best!!

It's the three who are always together!! Oh? Plue is there too!!

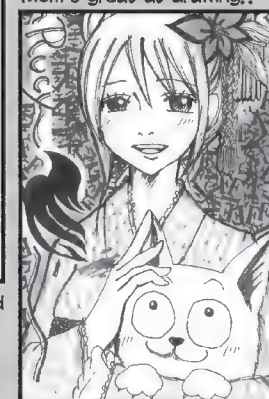


Yamaguchi Prefecture, Fuku-chan

Yamaguchi Prefecture, Fuku-chan's Little Brother



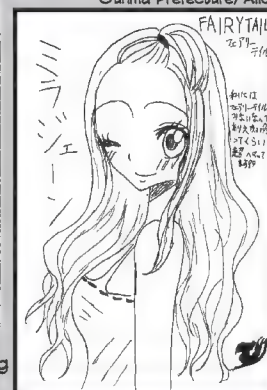
▼ Mother and child both sent in their pictures! And Mom's great at drawing!!



Yamaguchi Prefecture, Fuku-chan's Mom

▲ I don't know. Happy and Plue are both incredibly cute!

Gumma Prefecture, Alice



▲ An over-the-shoulder Mira-chan. The question corner this time was filled with Mira-chan's secrets!

Osaka, Macaroon



▲ The big bad wolf is going to eat you! But wait, the big bad wolf is Plue!

Saitama Prefecture, Aika Kubo



▲ Merudy! Yes, she's scheduled to show up again.

Kanagawa Prefecture, Akiteru



▲ That's soo good! A two-shot with Gray and Lucy! That's actually pretty rare.

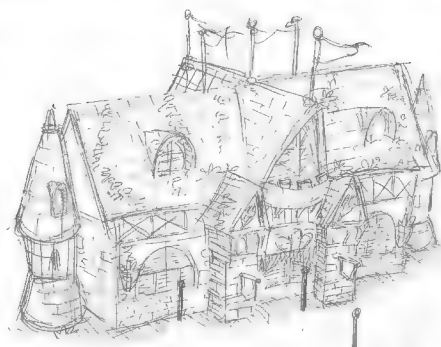
Whoa, cute!! I'd like to see these come out as mascots!



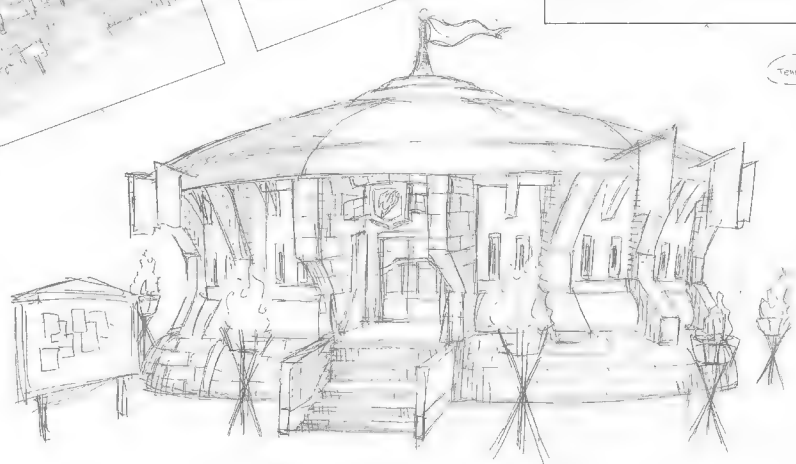
Hiroshima Prefecture, Kurokawa

FAIRY TAIL 30

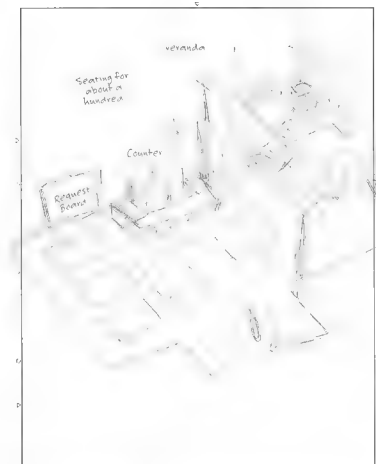
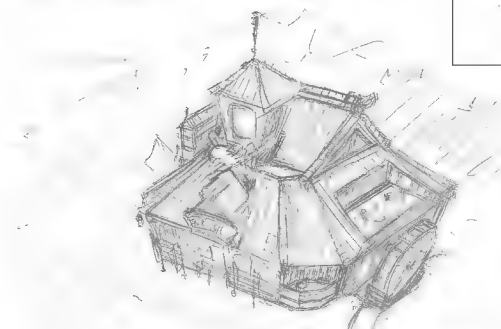
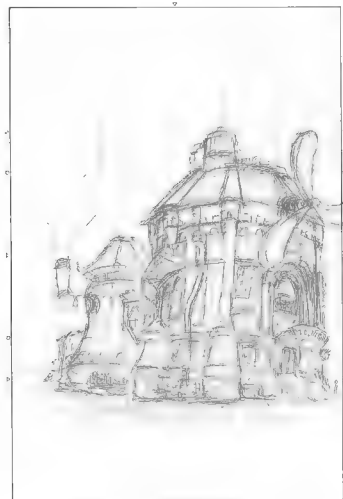
フェアリーテイル



Text style



HIRO NISHINA



FROM HIRO MASHIMA



I went to a signing in New York City, and these are a few of the Fairy Tail cosplayers who were nice enough to meet me there. There were plenty more! In fact, so many people came out to see me that words can't express my gratitude. I've gotten a renewed enthusiasm to make sure my stories are aimed at the whole world! Also, that Ichiya costume looked almost too good! (laughs). I'm so happy there are people in America who see how good that character is.

Translation Notes:

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Page 159,

5,880,000 Jewels

As we mentioned back in the notes of Volume 1, the currency in Earth-land is based essentially on Japanese currency, and a quick way to get an approximate idea of how much they're talking about in dollars is to take off the final two digits (the final two zeros). Then, you would get the number "58,800," or something on the order of about \$60,000. Not as bad as six million, but still way out of the range of a teenager like Lucy.



Page 162, -dono

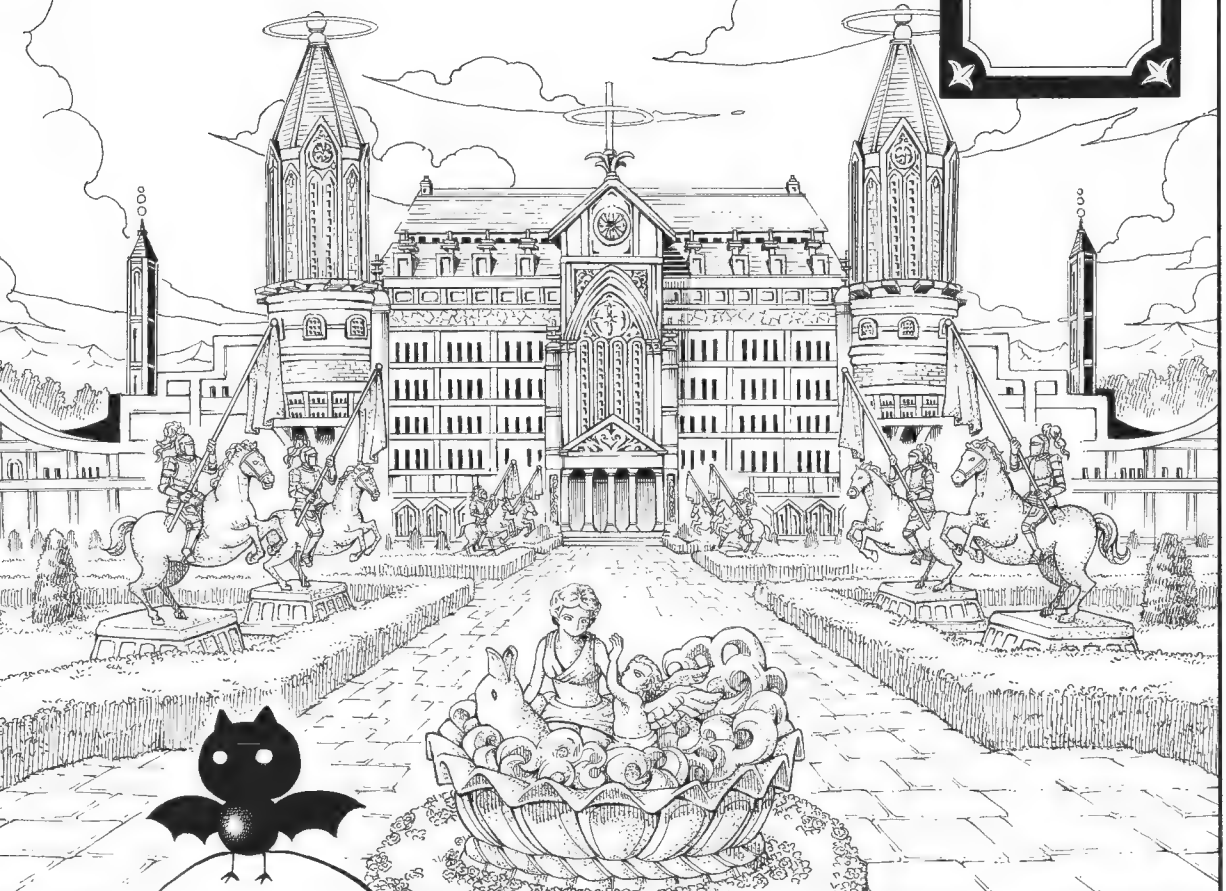
As mentioned in previous notes, *-dono* is an honorific much like *-sama*, one that indicates a lot of respect. But it is also somewhat archaic and is not used in everyday society. It gives off a sort of medieval feel.



Preview of *Fairy Tail*, volume 31

We're pleased to present you with a preview from Fairy Tail, volume 31, which will be released digitally in June 2013 and in print in September. See our Web site (www.kodanshacomics.com) for more details!

The Magic
Council,
Era.



More
importantly,
have you
heard the
news yet?

**MAGIC
COUNCIL**
ELDER ORG

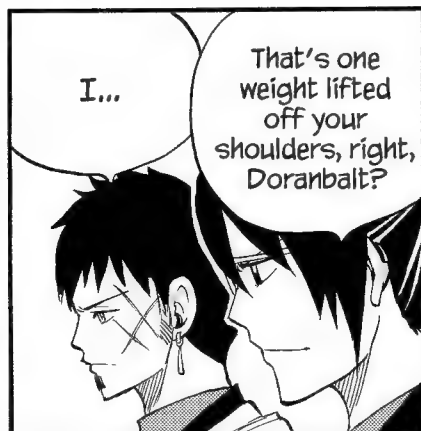
Has the
council come
to a resolution
regarding inter-
guild commerce
regulations?

No...
That will
take some
time.

Mr.

Master Org,
welcome back
from your
meeting.







These seven years have been too quiet.



Forgive me... we still have no idea where they went.

Perhaps we ought to expand the Reconnaissance Corps.



Same for what's left of Grimoire Heart.

None have any information on Zeref or Acnologia.

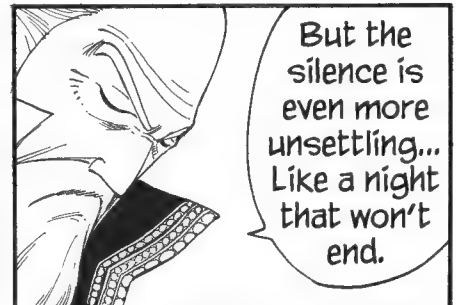
We've been keeping an eye on the progress of Saber Tooth...

...but Tartarus has kept a low profile.



Perhaps it will signal a new dawn for the magical world.

I think it's about time for daybreak.



But the silence is even more unsettling... Like a night that won't end.



...will be Fairy Tail...?

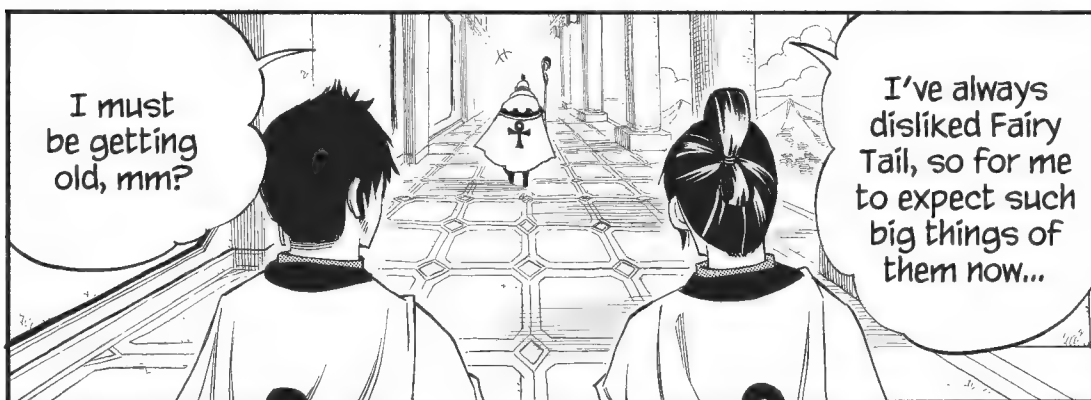
And you're saying the trigger ...



Fwah
ha ha
ha!

?!

?!



I must
be getting
old, mm?

I've always
disliked Fairy
Tail, so for me
to expect such
big things of
them now...



It's been two
weeks since
we came home
from Sirius
Island.



Of course
Weekly
Sorcerer was
quick to send
a reporter.



Our
return is
the talk of
the whole
country...

No... the
whole
conti-
nent.



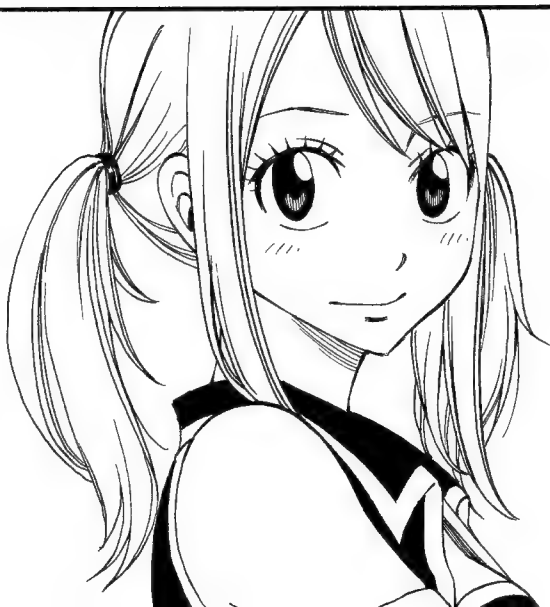
And little by
little, I'm
recovering
from the
news about
my father.



Everyone
treats each
day like a
festival,
making up
for seven
years of
lost time.



That makes
me almost
too happy.

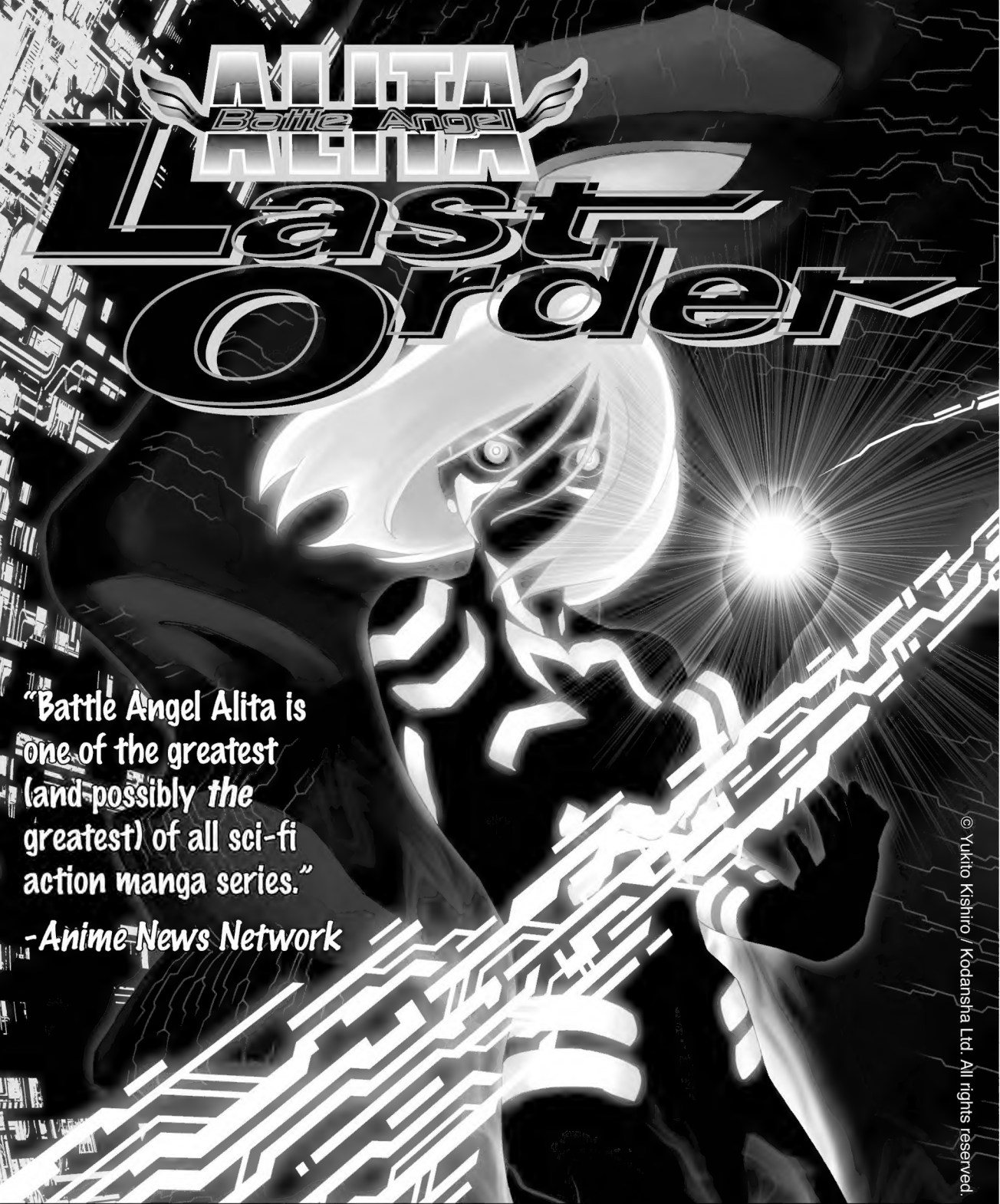


I have
everybody
with me.









"Battle Angel Alita is one of the greatest (and possibly the greatest) of all sci-fi action manga series."

- Anime News Network

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COMICS

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9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Translator: William Flanagan
Lettering: AndWorld Design

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